US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District

FINAL
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR JTF-6 ACTIVITIES ALONG THE U.S./MEXICO BORDER

(Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California)

LEAD AGENCY

COOPERATING AGENCY

COOPERATING AGENCY

PREPARED BY THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
FORT WORTH DISTRICT

AUGUST 1994

FINAL PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Lead Agency:	U.S. Department of Justice Immigration and Naturalization Service
Cooperating Agencies:	U.S. Department of Defense Joint Task Force-Six; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6, Dallas
Title of Proposed Action:	Continuation of JTF-6 Support Services
Affected Jurisdiction:	Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California

ABSTRACT: The proposed project is to continue the Joint Task Force-Six program in the same manner and at similar intensities as have occurred since its inception in 1989. These prior actions have been addressed in other project specific environmental documents, as appropriate. The JTF-6 program involves providing operational, engineering and general support to law enforcement agencies that have drug interdiction responsibilities within the southwestern border states. Support can be provided in many forms, including, but not limited to, data analysis and processing, interpretation of aerial photographs, conduct of ground patrols, design and installation of training facilities and bases of operation, and repair or construction of border roads and fences. This assistance allows the law enforcement agencies to conduct their respective investigation, apprehension, and conviction operations more efficiently and, thus, reduce the flow of illegal drugs into the U.S. Secondary benefits of this program include valuable training for the military units involved in the program as well as an indirect reduction of illegal immigrants. This program complies with the National Defense Authorization Act and the President's National Drug Control Strategy. Continuation of the program without the engineering support and discontinuation of the entire program (no action) are the only other alternatives considered.

The official deadline for comments is 30 days after publication of the Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*. If you would like further information about this document, please contact:

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SUMMARY SHEET FOR FINAL PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

CONTINUATION OF THE JOINT TASK FORCE-SIX PROGRAM

( ) Draft (x) Final

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Type of Action: (x) Administrative
( ) Legislative

Project Description:

This Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) was prepared by the Fort Worth District, U.S. Corps of Engineers in response to a request from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and the U.S. Joint Task Force-Six (JTF-6). The proposed project is to allow JTF-6 to continue its program of providing operational, engineering, and general support to law enforcement agencies at the same or similar levels and intensities that JTF-6 has been providing during the previous five Fiscal Years (FY90 through FY94). The purpose of the program is to allow law enforcement agencies operating within the southwestern U.S. and which have drug interdiction authorities to conduct their missions more efficiently and effectively. INS, through its Border Patrol component, has been the primary beneficiary of most of the JTF-6 actions to date and, therefore, elected to be the lead agency for the preparation of this PEIS. Past JTF-6 actions have been addressed in other project-specific environmental documents.

The support actions provided by JTF-6 are grouped into three major categories, as indicated above: (1) operational support, (2) engineering support, and (3) general support. These services are provided to any law enforcement agency (LEA) which has responsibility for control of illegal drugs within the border states of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. JTF-6 provides these services, however, only at the request of the LEA and upon approval by Operation Alliance, an organization of Federal, state and local law enforcement agency representatives. Types of projects that can be provided by JTF-6 under each support category are listed below.

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT:

1. Listening post/observation post
2. Ground patrols
3. Ground sensors
4. Terrain denial

ENGINEERING SUPPORT:

1. Road, bridge, culvert repair and construction
2. Firing range upgrade and construction
3. Helipad and taxiway upgrade and construction
4. Communication tower installation
5. Building rehabilitation, demolition, and construction
6. Border fence repair and construction
7. Lighting facilities
8. Boat ramp installation
9. Tunnel location and demolition
10. Water well and septic system installation
11. Fitness and training course design and construction

GENERAL SUPPORT:

1. Transportation of personnel, equipment, and materials (evidentiary or construction)
2. Data analysis and processing
3. Training seminars and courses
4. Aerial photography interpretation
5. Translation or decoding of foreign documents
6. Aerial reconnaissance

Summary of Major Environmental Effects:

General support service actions have not produced, in previous actions, nor would they be expected to produce any significant long-term or cumulative adverse impacts on the human or natural environment. Previous operational support service actions have resulted in temporary disturbances to vegetation and soils. Mitigation of these disturbances through selection and use of previously disturbed sites for bivouac and command centers has been, and would continue to be, implemented. Consequently, no significant long-term or cumulative adverse impact would be expected from these types of actions.

Engineering support actions to date, particulalry firing range and road repair operations, have resulted in the clearing of about 2,500 acres of wildlife habitat which consisted primarily of semidesert grasslands and scrub communities. The majority of this acreage was located within the initial construction rights-of-way (ROW) of existing roads and, thus, had been previously disturbed or

altered. These actions also destroyed or disturbed seven specimens of two Federally protected cacti species and one specimen of a Federally protected vine species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued a Biological Opinion on 20 July 1994 that stated these accidental damages would cause no jeopardy to the continued existence of either species.

Cultural resource sites have incurred limited impacts due to construction activities. Although such impacts are generally avoided by rerouting or cessation of construction activities within site boundaries, cumulative impacts to cultural resource sites within road ROW could be produced as a result of increased traffic or future maintenance activities. The requesting LEA will be responsible for mitigating any adverse effects to National Register-eligible properties.

Temporary deleterious effects on air quality, ambient noise, and water quality may occur during certain operational and engineering support operations. These are all localized and of short duration; therefore, no significant long-term or cumulative adverse impacts to these resources are expected.

Surveys for protected species prior to each construction project have resulted in vast expansion of the knowledge concerning the distribution of protected species. Additionally, habitats supporting California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, and California least tern have been protected and/or enhanced due to JTF-6 actions near San Diego.

The major beneficial effect is the long-term reduction of flow of illegal drugs into the United States and the concomitant effects upon the Nation's health and economy, drug-related crimes, community cohesion, property values, and traditional family values. Secondary benefits of the program include a reduction in illegal immigration and realistic and tactical training of the military units in deployment, logistics and planning, design and construction, aerial reconnaissance and surveillance, data processing, and other parameters that are a part of their overall essential training elements required by their respective missions.

Areas of Controversy:

Two primary areas of controversy remain. The loss of habitat within the border region is considered by some organizations as a major effect. While 2,500 acres appears to be a substantial amount of

land, it should be emphasized that the project area within which JTF-6 operates encompasses about 40 million acres and the majority of this 2,500 acres had been disturbed previously.

The participation of military units in the control of illegal drug trafficking along the southwestern border has raised some controversy. However, Department of Defense participation in counterdrug operations has been directed by the National Drug Control Strategy and authorized by the U.S. Congress under the National Defense Authorization Act of 1991 (P.L. 101-510, as amended).

Summary of Alternatives Considered:
In addition to the continuation of the JTF-6 program, which is the preferred alternative, two other alternatives were considered. One was to continue the JTF-6 program without the engineering support services (which is the support group that has the greatest potential for environmental impacts) and the other was the "no action" alternative. Implementation of the latter would essentially be a discontinuation of the JTF-6 program.

While a reduction in the scope of the JTF-6 actions would still allow some enhancement of LEAs' efficacy, the full intent and purpose of the National Drug Control Strategy or the National Defense Authorization Act would not be satisfied. Additionally, military units would receive less extensive and/or less realistic training under this alternative. Discontinuation of the JTF-6 program would not satisfy the intent of the U.S. President, Congress, or Secretary of Defense in their combined efforts in the "War On Drugs". The socioeconomic benefits, both real and intangible, of the JTF-6 program would not be realized under the no action alternative.

Public Involvement:
A series of public scoping meetings was held along the U.S./Mexico border during the period August-October 1993. Public agency scoping meetings were conducted in November 1991 and again in December 1993. This Draft PEIS has been circulated to Federal and state congressional delegations, Federal, state and local resource and environmental regulatory agencies; state and local public officials; environmental organizations and members of the general public who have requested copies or who were included on previous mailing lists. The official closing date for receipt of public comments on the Final PEIS is 30 days after the Notice of Availability appeared in the *Federal Register*.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Joint Task Force-Six (JTF-6) is a recently formed military command that provides assistance and support to various counterdrug enforcement agencies located within the southwestern United States. JTF-6 is proposing to continue this effort, as directed by the National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 101-510, as amended). In order to continue to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, JTF-6, in cooperation with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), prepared this Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). This PEIS addresses the cumulative effects of past and reasonably foreseeable projects undertaken by JTF-6 for numerous law enforcement agencies within the four southwestern states (i.e., Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California). The area of these four states in which JTF-6 primarily operates is a 50-mile wide corridor along the U.S./Mexico border (Figure 1-1). Because JTF-6 conducts these projects only at the request of other agencies, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to accurately estimate the number, type and location of projects that will be undertaken by JTF-6 during the next five years. Consequently, this PEIS describes the general types of projects expected and addresses the types of impacts that would be expected to result from the continuation of the JTF-6 program. Where plausible, data gleaned from past projects are used to assess potential impacts of projects relative to their cumulative effects. This PEIS was prepared for the INS and JTF-6 by the Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for the Implementation of NEPA. The PEIS was prepared under Contract No. DACA63-90-D-0061, Delivery Order No. 0066.

1.1 BACKGROUND

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), which is within the Department of Justice, was originally created in 1890 as the Bureau of Immigration with the responsibility to regulate and control immigration into the United States. Prior to that, immigration was the responsibility of individual states. Because of the huge influx of illegal aliens after 1890, the U.S. Congress, in 1924, created the Border Patrol to be the law enforcement arm of the INS. The Border Patrol's primary function is to detect and prevent the smuggling and unlawful entry of aliens along the United States' 8,000 miles

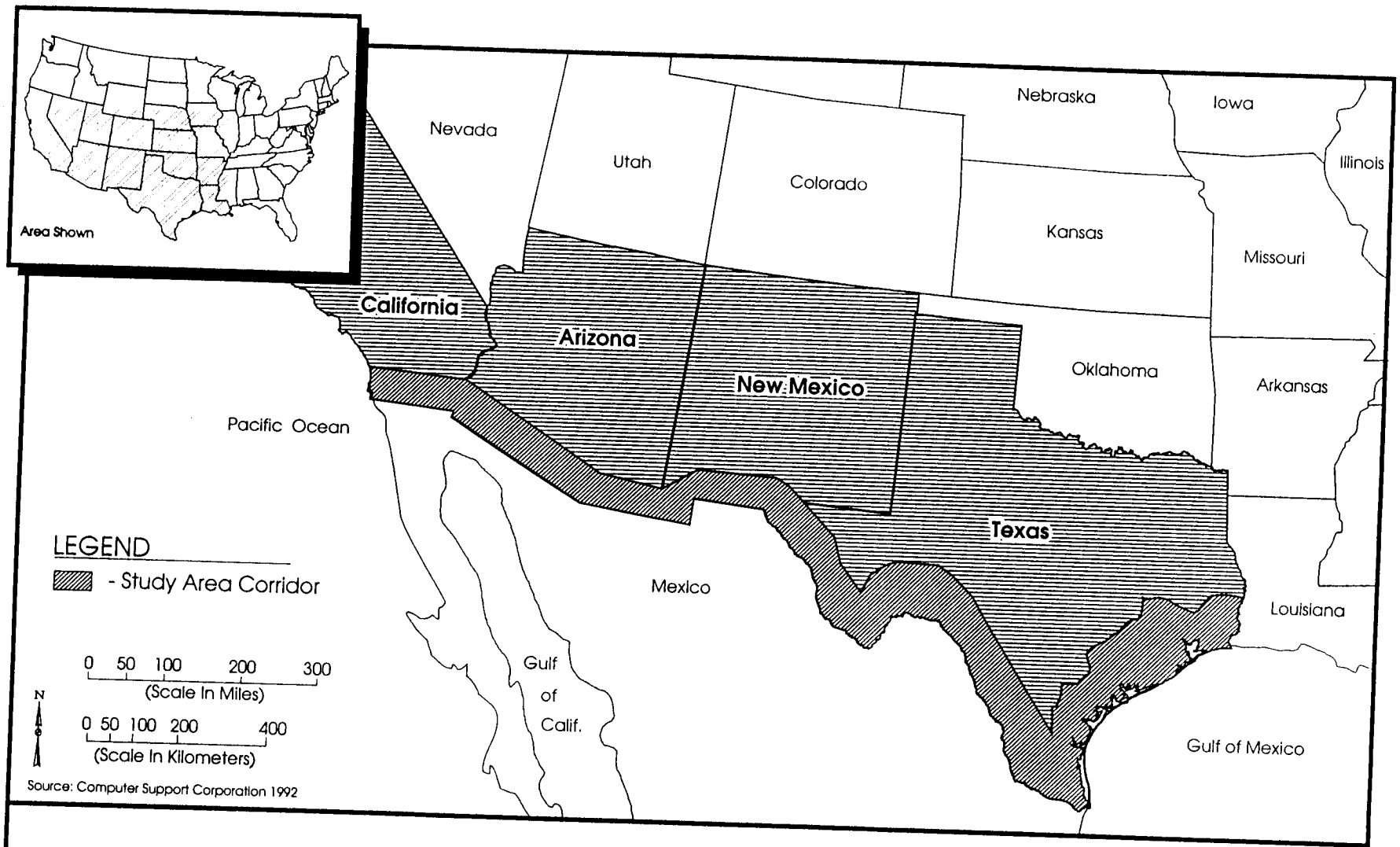

Figure 1-1. JTF6 Project Area.

of land and water borders. Since then, with the dramatic increase in illegal drug trafficking, the Border Patrol also has become the primary law enforcement agency for drug interdiction between land ports of entry.

Still, the U.S. is experiencing an unprecedented concern over epidemic level of drug use and frightening amounts of drug-related crime as depicted in the following statistics (JTF-6 1994b):

* 2,000 Americans are arrested every day for drug-related offenses;
* 500,000 Americans are regular heroin users;
* 1,300,000 Americans are regular cocaine users;
* 9,700,000 Americans are regular marijuana users;
* 11,400,000 Americans used some form of illicit drug last year.

The negative impacts of widespread drug use on society continue to affect the work force, educational system, general law and order, and traditional family values and structure. Rising rates of violent crime, serious damage to the Nation's health and economy and strains on vital relationships with international allies led the U.S. Congress to develop the National Drug Control Strategy and for former President Bush to declare the "War On Drugs." The National Drug Control Strategy included Department of Defense (DOD) involvement, and in 1989, the Secretary of Defense defined a significant role in the counterdrug effort for JTF-6. The Secretary directed that key commanders within the various Armed Services develop plans identifying each of their proposed methods of providing assistance in reducing the flow of drugs into the United States. The U.S. Forces Command (FORSCOM), the parent command of JTF-6, was directed to provide support requested by a Federal, state, or local law enforcement agency (LEA) to assist in the counterdrug effort within the continental United States.

JTF-6 was established in November 1989 and was assigned an area of operations to include the four southwestern border states of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. The most recent National Drug Control Strategy indicated that the "high intensity drug trafficking areas" (HIDTAs) for the United States were Houston, Texas; Los Angeles, California; New York City, New York; Miami, Florida; and the southwestern border region. Three of these five HIDTAs (Houston, Los Angeles, and southwest U.S.) fall within the jurisdictional area assigned to JTF-6.

The mission of JTF-6 has remained unchanged since 1989. JTF-6 has a supporting role, rather than a lead role, to LEAs and provides that support only at their request. JTF-6 performs a wide variety of projects, as will be discussed later, at the request of these agencies. These projects allow the agencies to better enforce the drug laws of the various states and the Nation. Although the Border Patrol has been the primary beneficiary of the construction, training, and reconnaissance activities of JTF-6, any southwestern law enforcement agency involved in interdiction of illegal drugs may request assistance from JTF-6.

The mission to provide this support is accomplished utilizing a closely-aligned, cohesive team of key military components. Within this team, specific relationships are defined. Operation Alliance is an organization of Federal, state, and local law enforcement representatives through which military support is made available to southwest border drug-related LEAs. The El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC), located near JTF-6, provides intelligence and long-term trend information often necessary to meet the JTF-6 mission support requirements. The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) provides support in the air interdiction effort in coordination with its southwest air defense sector and JTF-6. Through this team and using each of the states' National Guard units, the capability is provided to satisfy the requirements for military support permissible within current U.S. policies and legal parameters.

Policy and coordination for the southwest border team of DOD and LEAs flow from the Office of National Drug Control Policy, in Washington, D.C., to the Southwest Border Joint Command Group, which is comprised of representatives from major LEAs operating in the border states areas. The Commander of JTF-6 is the DOD representative on the Joint Command Group. LEAs obtain military assistance in their battle against illegal drug trade through support requests forwarded to Operation Alliance. Intelligence, which many times is provided by EPIC, often drives the LEA's request or need for support. Operation Alliance, in turn, determines and prioritizes the type of support needed and the agency most capable of providing that support. If it is determined that Title 10 (Active or Reserve Armed Services) units can best handle the support, the request is forwarded to JTF-6. JTF-6 will then staff the request and, upon approval from FORSCOM, U.S. Atlantic Command, or the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), as appropriate, will designate a unit to conduct the operation.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is signed by the respective commanders of representatives of Operation Alliance, JTF-6, the participating unit and the requesting LEA. This MOU identifies the work to be accomplished, the purpose and need for the project, and outlines responsibilities of each party. The MOU has been modified to incorporate future NEPA documents as part of the MOU and to specifically identify the requesting LEA as the responsible party for operation and maintenance of the project upon completion by JTF-6. The MOU will also state that any future activities that will significantly change or modify the extent or use of the project as proposed, or that may have potential impacts, will require additional NEPA documentation and/or coordination with resource agencies.

During the entire cycle of the project, JTF-6 maintains tactical command and control of the units conducting the project through a programmed array of procedural and active measures. Unit commanders and their key personnel meet with JTF-6 planners at an initial planning conference. After this meeting, JTF-6 planners and unit representatives meet at the operation site with the requesting LEAs to perform initial site planning. On-site environmental briefings are conducted with each unit prior to initiation of a project. The units receive a copy of the NEPA document including mitigation measures, during this briefing to ensure that the project personnel are aware of sensitive issues and resources as well as any mitigative measures that are to be implemented. In-process reviews and other meetings, as well as detailed after-action reviews, ensure that the operation is successfully completed. The after-action reviews provide valuable information that is utilized for subsequent, similar actions to enhance personnel or equipment proficiency, reduce project delays, and facilitate avoidance of potential adverse impacts. Operation and maintenance of facilities constructed the JTF-6, as indicated above, remains the responsibility of the requesting LEA.

Since the first mission performed by JTF-6 in January 1990, JTF-6 has progressed from a temporary duty staff with little guidance to a multi-talented, permanent staff of military and civilian personnel who were responsible for the planning, coordination, and execution of 485 operations in Fiscal Year (FY) 1993. The military personnel assigned to JTF-6 include Army (58%), Marine (20%), Air Force (19%), and Navy (3%). About 32 civilian personnel also are employed by JTF-6. As soon as a request is forwarded from Operation Alliance to JTF-6, these staff perform an in-depth review of several critical factors that might otherwise prevent efficient operations from occurring.

First, the "Posse Comitatus" law prohibits Federal military forces from search, seizure, arrest, or conduct of any similar or related law enforcement activity. Secondly, the military personnel conducting the operation must abide by JCS peacetime rules of engagement. These factors, coupled with recognizing the sensitivity of military operations which are conducted in proximity to a border with another sovereign nation, require that each project be screened carefully in terms of legality and military propriety.

In addition, political sensitivities regarding potential confrontations between the U.S. military and law-abiding citizens living within the four-state border region must be respected and carefully evaluated prior to each operation. Approximately 50 percent of the land along the border is under private ownership. Under current legislative authority, Federal military forces must have the permission of the landowners prior to entering or conducting any operations on private lands. Finally, the operation must be able to satisfy training requirements of the participating military unit. A portion of each unit's respective "Mission-Essential Task List" (METL) must be accomplished during each JTF-6 operation.

Once a request is forwarded to JTF-6, JTF-6 will contact various Active and Reserve units to determine if any are interested in providing assistance on the proposed project. The unit's participation in the project will provide necessary training for their troops who are provided to the project proponent at no cost. The requesting LEA, however, is responsible for the purchase of all construction materials, if any, to be left on-site after a project is completed.

To comply with NEPA, JTF-6 has completed individual, site-specific Environmental Assessments (EA) or Records of Environmental Considerations (REC) for its operational and engineering support activities to date. However, as the number of projects increased and public resource agencies realized the geographic scope of their work, concerns about cumulative impacts arose. JTF-6 began consultation with various agencies in order to attempt to identify the best method to address the potential cumulative impacts and resolve these concerns. In 1992, JTF-6 elected to prepare this Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to address the potential impacts of the overall program. Because JTF-6 only provides support to, and only at the request of, other LEAs, it was determined that the LEAs are the actual proponents of the various projects and, thus, should take the lead in the preparation of the PEIS.

Since the majority of projects that JTF-6 has performed, or is expected to perform, is for the Border Patrol, the INS elected to be the lead agency for this PEIS, with JTF-6 serving as a cooperating agency. The EPA, Region 6, has also accepted a role as cooperating agency. A copy of the agreement between INS and EPA is included as Appendix A.

This PEIS is intended to satisfy two objectives: (1) identification of the cumulative impacts of past and future JTF-6 projects and (2) identification of those types of projects routinely conducted by JTF-6 which would require an EA or REC to be tiered to this PEIS or which may fall within a categorical exclusion (CATEX) classification as defined by DOD Directive 6501. An EA would be prepared for all future projects that would have the potential to produce adverse impacts based upon the project's geographic location, amount and type of ground-disturbing activities, potential to affect the area's air and water supplies, threatened or endangered species, cultural resources, and/or the potential for adverse socioeconomic effects. A REC, as defined by DOD Directive 6501, is appropriate for those actions which would have limited ground disturbances, be conducted in areas previously disturbed or developed, or otherwise have slight potential to produce adverse environmental or socioeconomic effects. A REC is a brief document which describes the proposed project and its expected impacts (beneficial and adverse) and which must be able to be tiered to a previous EA, EIS, or other NEPA document. Examples of types of projects which could be evaluated through a REC include: expansion of an existing firing range where ground disturbances would be less than 10 acres; construction of a helipad at an established airfield; or renovation of a LEA building. It should be emphasized however that surveys for cultural resources, protected species or other environmental liabilities (e.g., hazardous waste sites) may be required to complete the REC. The presence of such resources or conditions may necessitate the REC to be elevated to an EA or EIS.

CATEXs are allowed by NEPA and DOD Directive 6501 for those proposed projects that are so innocuous that impacts, if they occur at all, will be negligible. Types of activities that currently fall within this classification include temporary or permanent relocation of small numbers of military personnel, purchase of office equipment, weapons training at established firing ranges, data analysis and aerial photointerpretation.

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

The primary purpose of the proposed JTF-6 activities is to facilitate the LEAs' missions to reduce or eliminate illegal drug activity along the southwestern border of the United States. The National Border Patrol Strategy to control the border identifies the southwestern border as the highest priority area. This mission is enhanced by placement and use of sensors, fences, low light level cameras, and other devices. A secondary objective, but extremely important goal for the DOD, is to provide training opportunities for Active and Reserve units in deployment and redeployment, logistics and design planning, construction of roads and buildings, intelligence data gathering and analysis techniques, field observation techniques, navigation techniques, and other requirements of each participating unit's METL.

JTF-6 provides support only to LEAs which have requested its support or assistance and only to those agencies which have illegal drug control jurisdictions. The Posse Comitatus Act prohibits the use of Active and Reserve Armed Services personnel from conducting police actions (i.e., search and seizure, arrest, detention, investigation, etc.). Consequently, the support provided to the LEA involves construction, training and certain operational activities that do not require the troops' direct involvement in arrests and convictions.

1.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTIONS

The types of assistance that JTF-6 provides can be categorized into three groups:
(1) operational support services, (2) engineering support services, and (3) general support services. These service groups and the types of projects that are included in each are described in the following paragraphs. The number of projects, by support services group, that JTF-6 has performed to date is presented in Figures 1-2 through 1-4. Projected numbers of similar projects for the next five years, based upon past performance levels, are also illustrated in these figures.

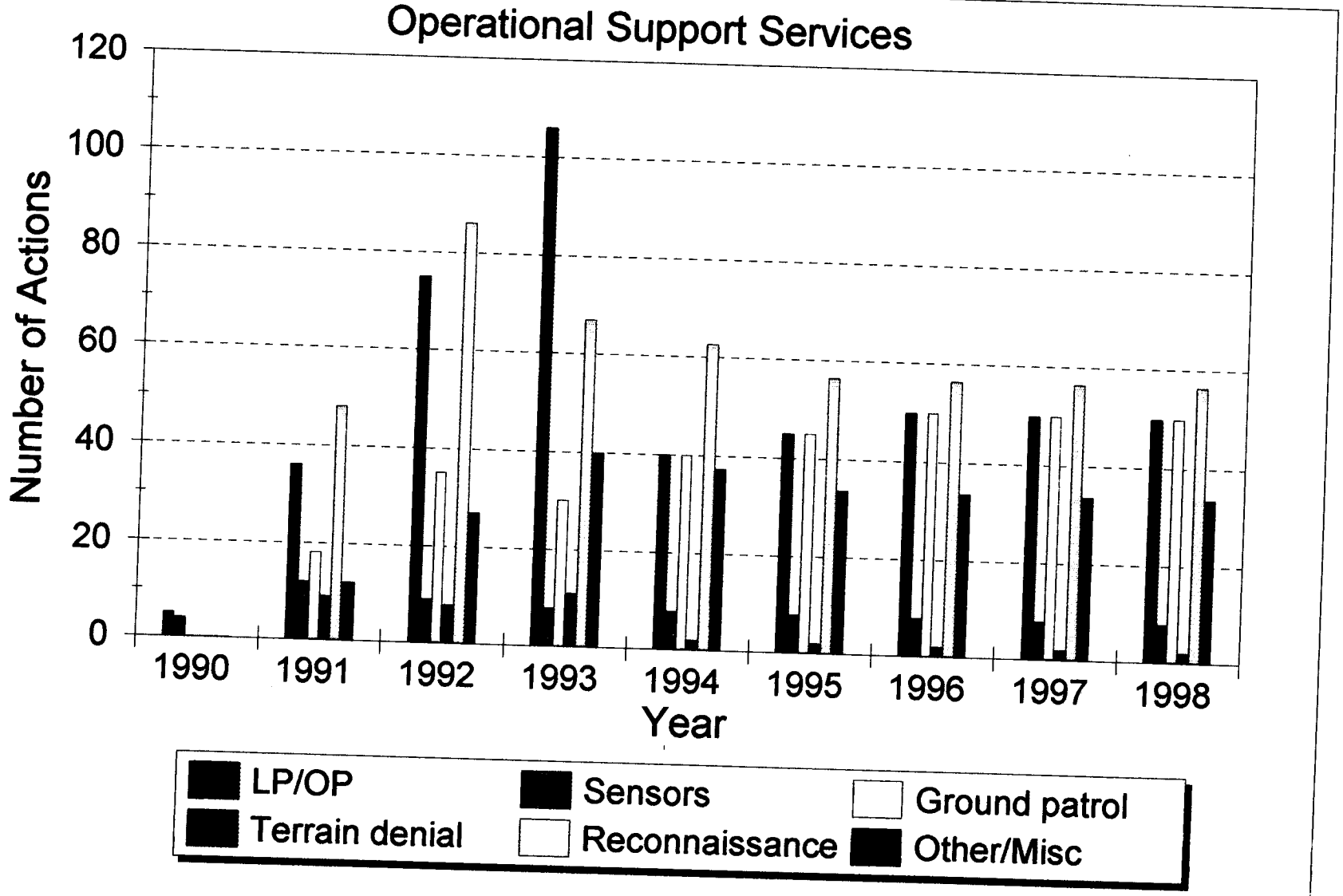

Figure 1-2. Number of JTF-6 Operational Support projects performed (FY90-93) and expected (FY 94-98).

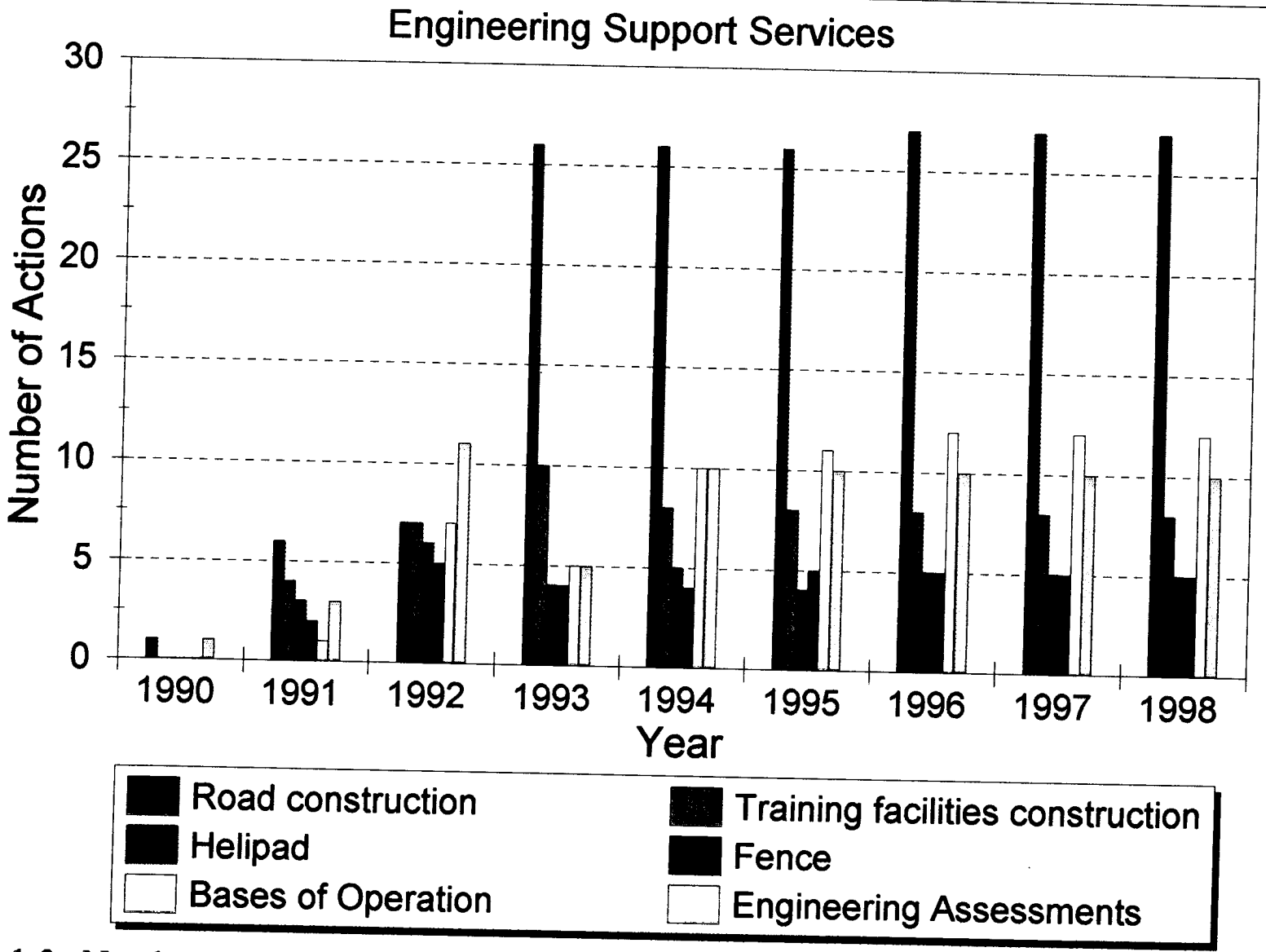

Figure 1-3. Number of JTF-6 Engineering Support projects performed (FY90-93) and expected (FY 94-98).

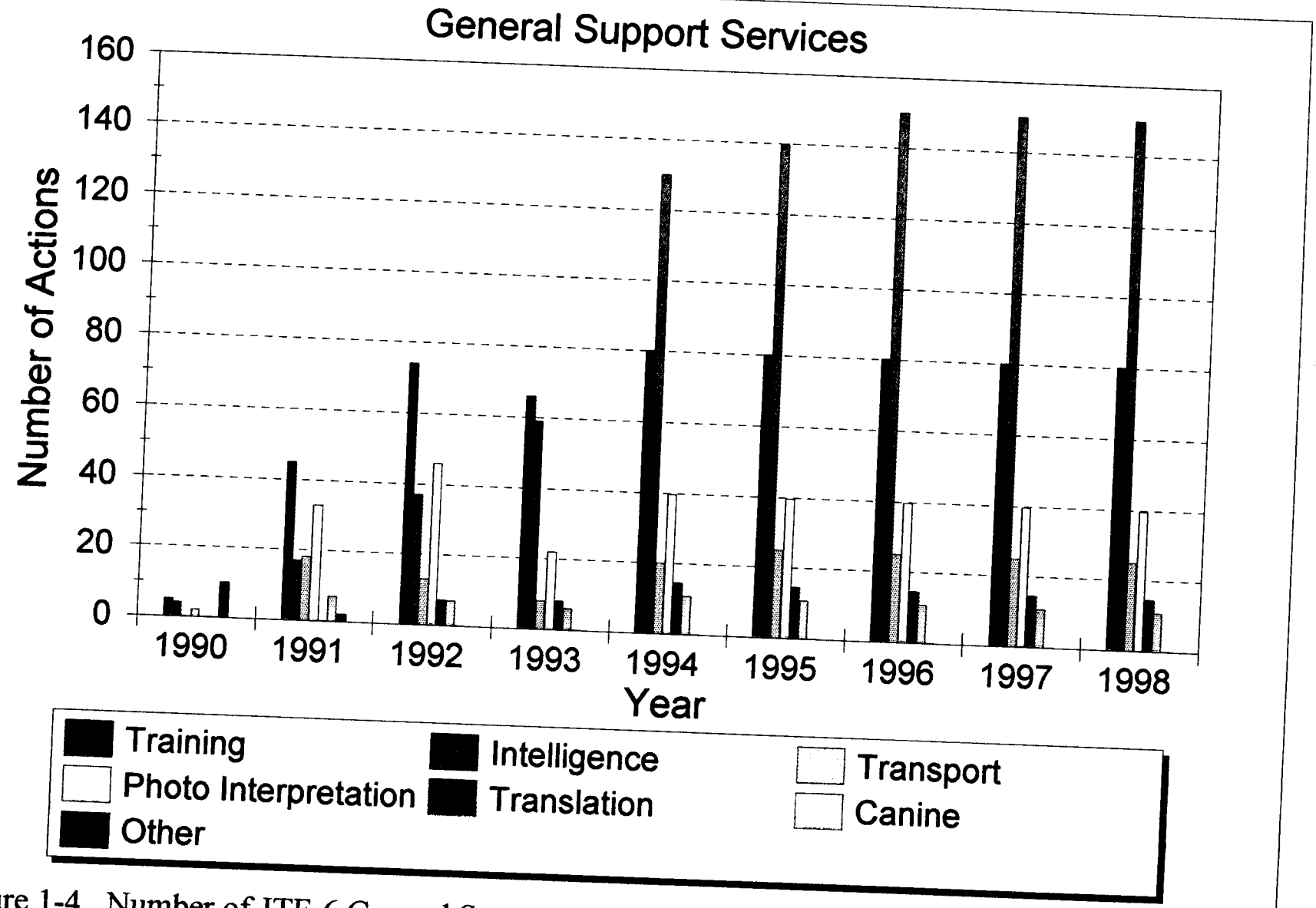

Figure 1-4. Number of JTF-6 General Support projects performed (FY90-93) and expected (FY 94-98).

1.4 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

1.4.1 Listening Post/Observation Post (LP/OP)

LP/OP support services provide additional personnel to a LEA for observation or reconnaissance of areas that have high potential for illegal drug smuggling activities. LP/OP missions will last from five to 30 days and may include a company of up to 120 military personnel who will serve on alternating teams of two to four personnel. Typically, no more than 30 personnel will be at LP/OP positions at any given time during a mission. These 30 personnel will be deployed at five to 15 LP/OP sites (2-6 persons/site) for up to 96 hours, during which time they remain at the LP/OP site. Operations at the actual LP/OP site generally consist of a team which has selected a high observation point (which can be a building along the border or a high point of ground) from which the team attempts to observe illegal drug activities. Illegal activities include unauthorized aircraft flights into the United States which will be detected by radar or visual observations from the LP/OP site. If illegal activities are indeed observed, the military unit calls the appropriate LEA for enforcement action. The military unit does not participate in the enforcement action other than the initial report to the LEA. Access to the LP/OP sites may be by a 4-wheel drive vehicle, by foot if roads/jeep trails to the site are non-existent, or by helicopter insertion. The motor vehicles remain on established roads or other disturbed areas and are not driven cross-country. Established roads or jeep trails include those which have been sufficiently traveled to have kept vegetation cropped to a level or width sufficient for vehicle passage or to have left dual tracks that are readily visible from the ground or from an aerial platform.

The LP/OP unit utilizes binoculars, cameras, and night vision devices to allow 24-hour observation periods. LP/OP sites are left intact with no litter and, to the maximum extent practicable, no significant damage to vegetation or cultural resources. Garbage and other solid wastes are removed from the site and disposed of in strict accordance with Federal, state and local regulations.

Occasionally, a LEA may request that the LP/OP site be established as a permanent site to allow routine but irregular observation activities. Permanent LP/OP sites require digging a 12 x 12-foot (maximum) hole at the site and placing a removable, camouflage cover on top. By providing these support services, the LP/OP unit receives actual and realistic field reconnaissance training that will facilitate their combat readiness.

1.4.2 Ground Patrols

Ground patrols involve 10 to 12 military personnel traveling on foot through public lands with the intent of discovering illegal drug activities such as cultivation of marijuana. Use of private lands require the expressed written permission of the landowners through a "Right of Entry" document. These actions may last up to a month, but generally occur no more than once a year. The units may establish field camp sites each day, but will police their camp sites each morning before leaving to ensure that no visible evidence of their presence exists. No large mess or other bivouac facilities are associated with this type of support activity. In fact, ground patrol units typically utilize established camp grounds or military bases for sleeping facilities during ground patrol exercises. If illegal activities are observed during the ground patrols, they are reported to the appropriate LEA for enforcement action. Ground patrol units, by conducting these services, receive training in terrain navigation, camouflage, and observation/detection techniques.

1.4.3 Ground Sensors

Ground sensors are typically one foot in diameter and about three inches in height and utilize radio and seismic frequencies to detect foot and/or vehicular movement. Thus, no communication wiring between sensors is necessary. Border Patrol and JTF-6 units arrange ground sensors in an array which will enhance the efficacy of the LP/OP operations. A maximum of 100 ground sensors is typically used in the array depending upon the area to be covered, visual observation capabilities of the site, and previous/anticipated levels of illegal drug traffic. The sensors are buried just below the surface of the ground usually within one mile from the LP/OP site. These sensors are left for a few weeks and then removed or relocated to another LP/OP site. Installation and monitoring of ground sensors allow the troops to train in unit barrier defenses.

1.4.4 Terrain Denial

Terrain denial support occurs only on public lands or on private lands after receipt of a "Right of Entry" document. Terrain denial support is provided when a LEA determines that potentially significant illegal actions will occur within a given area and time. Terrain denial operations are designed to prevent entry of drug traffickers into the United States. The current plans are to perform approximately seven of these per year. Terrain denial support activities typically involve 150 soldiers encamped at various locations along the border for a duration of about 30 days. The actual number of personnel may range from 60 to 600; a maximum of 900 personnel participated in one terrain

denial operation. Each base camp may be occupied by 50 to 60 soldiers. A Tactical Operations Center (TOC) comprised of 30 to 40 people may also be part of the terrain denial operations. The TOC will have generators, tents, vehicles, a radio antenna and other miscellaneous communication and maintenance/support equipment. The TOC area usually encompasses from two to five acres; however, vegetation will be not be removed, cut or otherwise cleared unless absolutely necessary. This decision will be the responsibility of the unit commander. A professional archeologist(s) and biologist(s) would be on site or make periodic inspection visits during the operation to ensure that no significant impacts occur to historical properties or sensitive natural resources.

The TOC will direct platoon size (45 soldiers) foot or wheeled patrols of specified border areas. These patrols serve the same purpose as the ground patrols, described above; however, other illegal activities may also be detected and reported. If equipment maintenance is required in the field, troops utilize a 4-millimeter plastic sheet under the vehicle or other equipment piece to reduce or eliminate spillage of petroleum, oils or lubricants (POL) onto the ground. Any spillage must be removed, transported back to the base camp and reported in accordance with DOD regulations. Absorbent materials will be maintained by each unit in case of accidental spills in accordance with their respective Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan (SPCCP).

1.5 ENGINEERING SERVICES

This support group includes engineering design, renovation and/or construction of various facilities that are routinely needed by the LEAs. The majority of these activities involve rehabilitation or upgrading of existing facilities, although some new construction is provided. Engineering support services comprise 20 percent of the JTF-6 budget for the three support areas; however, these services represent less than 10 percent of the overall number of projects performed by JTF-6. Engineering support services provide training for the troops in deployment and redeployment of construction units and equipment, construction of various types of facilities which may be required in combat emergency situations, and coordination and planning activities.

1.5.1 Road Repair, Bridges, Culverts, Gabions

These types of construction activities have represented, and are expected to represent, about 30 percent of the engineering work performed by JTF-6. The majority of the dirt roads within the

border region were about 24 feet wide when originally built. Over the years, vegetation has encroached to the point that these roads are now typically less than 10 feet wide. In addition, most roads have experienced severe wind and water erosion that has resulted in long, impassable stretches. The current conditions of these roads do not allow efficient use of the roads by the Border Patrol or other LEAs. Their condition prohibits adequate enforcement actions within large regions. JTF-6 actions involve upgrading or repair of these roads to a width of 20 feet with parallel drainage, where appropriate. Bridges, culverts, gabions, water bars, and other drainage or erosion control structures are designed and emplaced to reduce erosion and concomitant road maintenance activities. These roads are used as patrol routes, drag roads for detection of potential illegal traffic, and fire breaks. JTF-6 makes all practicable attempts to avoid construction of new sections of roads; however, severe erosion within and near some arroyos have necessitated construction of some new sections. The total length of new sections constructed to date is estimated to be less than 30 miles. To date, about 800 miles of existing roads have been upgraded; during the next five years, up to 300 miles per year are expected to need maintenance work.

1.5.2 Training Facility Construction

Weapons training ranges are used by LEAs to allow their officers to maintain firearm proficiency; most LEAs have requirements that their officers qualify on a monthly basis with the weapons that they use on their job. JTF-6 units have participated in weapons training range construction/upgrading which usually consists of installation of earthen berms around existing ranges for safety and protection of the firing range users as well as the general public. New firing ranges, encompassing five to 10 acres, also have been constructed for some LEAs which have not had access to other firing ranges and, thus, were not able to properly train in firearm operations and proficiency. When new firing ranges are needed, they are designed to support multi-agency use by several LEAs. Borrow material for construction of the firing ranges is obtained from the range site, where possible. Small caliber bullets from semi-automatic rifles, shotguns and pistols are used at these firing ranges. Plastic sheeting is placed under new berms to alleviate the potential of lead leaching to groundwater supplies. The LEAs are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the firing range. The multi-agency firing ranges may be utilized daily by four to five agencies.

Some weapons training facilities require construction of shooting houses, which are used to train LEA officers in entering houses and other buildings under emergency situations. A shooting house facility

is usually constructed in conjunction with firing ranges. Shooting houses are constructed with shock absorbent concrete (SACON) which is a foam based concrete, tire houses that are filled with sand on posts, or wooden railroad tie-lined structures which are sand filled. These structures are generally 10 to 12 feet high with no roofs. Most LEAs require stringent physical training for their field agents and most are required to pass periodic fitness tests. JTF-6 has incorporated into some training facilities fitness and obstacle courses to assist LEAs in their routine physical training programs. Some parts of these facilities, such as rappelling towers, provide additional training other than just physical fitness. Fitness/obstacle courses usually are built near or adjacent to existing LEA facilities; the area required for the course will depend upon the type of course desired, the training needs of the LEA, available lands, and budget. Borrow material, if any, is obtained on-site whenever practicable.

1.5.3 Helipads

Many LEAs utilize helicopters to support their reconnaissance, observation and enforcement activities. Due to the remote nature of much of the U.S. southwest, helipads are necessary to serve as refueling or mission stationing points. Helipads are typically constructed with concrete but can consist of matting or sandbags filled with eight percent cement. Stone rip-rap and/or sandbags are also used around the perimeter of the helipad for stabilization and to reduce erosion caused by the helicopter's prop wash. A helipad typically encompasses an area about 120 x 120 feet, including the prop wash protection area, and often times is located in proximity to a LEA's base of operation. JTF-6 units may also use the helipads in support of their LP/OP operations to allow deployment of troops to a LP/OP site. No petroleum, oils or lubricants (POL) are stored on-site relative to the helipad. However, LEA facilities maintain equipment (e.g., absorbent materials, fire extinguishers, etc.) for the containment of POL spills.

1.5.4 Communication Towers

Communication towers are permanent facilities used by the LEAs for the installation of cameras, radio transmitters/receivers, or motion detection devices. The communication towers may be as high as 60 feet and supported with anchor cables. Many of the towers will require construction of a 64 square foot (ft^2) concrete/concrete block building to house electronic equipment associated with the communication operations. Communication towers are typically built adjacent to a LEA facility; however, some towers have been constructed by JTF-6 in remote locations, usually on tops of ridges, to allow relay of radio transmissions.

1.5.5 Building Demolition

Illegal drug laboratories and other unauthorized structures often are discovered by LEAs on public lands. At the request of the appropriate LEAs, JTF-6 can provide demolition and removal services. Demolition of buildings generally are accomplished using heavy equipment (eg., bulldozers, etc.) and/or hand tools. Prior to initiation of demolition activities, the requesting LEA is required to perform a Preliminary Assessment Screening (PAS) to determine the presence of hazardous materials, clear land titles, and any other potential environmental liability. These liabilities, if they occur, are resolved by the requesting LEA before deployment of the JTF-6 sponsored unit.

1.5.6 Building Construction and Rehabilitation

The majority of this type of engineering support service will involve rehabilitation of existing buildings to upgrade the structure to building code standards or to convert the building to other uses. For instance, a storage shed at one of the El Paso Sector Border Patrol stations was converted to a dog kennel for use by the Border Patrol's canine investigation unit. New construction may also be requested and could involve construction of helipads, as described above, parking ramps and lots, taxiways, small office buildings, and storage or maintenance sheds. With the possible exception of communication towers and helipads, new construction activities will occur within or adjacent to existing LEA facilities.

1.5.7 Fence Repair/Construction

Border fences are located mostly in urbanized areas near the land ports of entry, although virtually the entire U.S./Mexico border has at one time or another been demarcated by some type of fence. Much of the existing fencing consists of barbed wire or chain link fence and is in various states of disrepair. Border fences, particularly near land ports of entry, can be an effective deterrent to illegal drug trafficking. Fencing also facilitates enforcement actions by hindering escape or funneling illegal traffic into selected areas. JTF-6 has been involved in the construction or repair of approximately 30 miles of border fencing. The construction right-of way (ROW) is generally less than 30 feet wide. Fence construction has usually involved welding solid steel matting to solid steel poles with concrete footings. Construction of this type of fence has mostly eliminated the problem of illegal traffickers driving through border fences. Other engineering actions that may be required as part of the fence construction include installation of culverts and filling of eroded sections of roads. Roads, when

required for maintenance of the fence, are built immediately adjacent to the fence and entirely within the construction ROW.

1.5.8 Lighting

Lighting is often used at land ports of entry by U.S. Customs Service, Border Patrol and other LEAs to detect and deter illegal activities during nighttime periods. Stadium style lights are mounted on poles that are installed on 100-foot centers. Wooden poles, encased in concrete and steel culverts to prevent them from being cut down, are most often used; steel poles with concrete footings may also be used. Lighting is used on an irregular basis and at differing durations to avoid establishing a routine that could be circumvented by illegal activities.

1.5.9 Boat Ramps

Boat ramps are utilized along the Rio Grande and other large surface water bodies (eg., Lake Amistad, Texas) by LEA officers to allow apprehension of illegal trafficking by boat operators. Boat ramps are constructed of earth and aggregate and/or concrete, depending upon the requesting LEA's need, expected use, and budget, as well as the desires and requirements of the agency with jurisdiction over the affected waterbody. JTF-6 closely coordinates with the pertinent agency(s) in designing and placement of boat ramps.

1.5.10 Tunnels

JTF-6 has provided support services to various LEAs in the detection and closure or destruction of tunnels built by smugglers to transport illegal drugs across the border.

1.5.11 Water Well and Septic Systems

JTF-6 has installed potable water wells and septic treatment systems at remote Border Patrol stations. Wastewater treatment systems have been required to bring the station into compliance with environmental regulations. Water wells have been installed to provide potable supplies at stations where agents have been forced to transport water from distances of up to 50 miles. Septic systems and water wells are constructed in strict accordance with Federal, state, and local regulations.

1.6 GENERAL SUPPORT SERVICES

JTF-6 provides a diverse type of other services, mostly training services, that include marksmanship, data processing, emergency medical procedures, leadership skills, and rapid rappeling techniques. One of the primary types of general support services that JTF-6 provides involves mobile training teams. These teams, consisting of two to five people, will travel to the requesting LEA's facility, and provide various training sessions. The mobile training team is a more cost efficient method of providing training since it eliminates the need for 30+ agents to travel to a training site. Under this category, JTF-6 also has provided other types of assistance such as intelligence, analysis and document translation.

These types of actions comprise about 39 percent of the number of projects performed for LEAs by JTF-6. The duration of each project is quite varied, as is the number of JTF-6 personnel involved; the typical project, however, will require less than five personnel for less than two weeks. No construction or other ground disturbing activities are associated with this support category.

1.7 MISCELLANEOUS PROJECT ITEMS

Field-oriented projects may require individual encampments or bivouac areas with the supporting facilities, although established military installations or other camping grounds are used when practical. Mess facilities, including soakage pits, are constructed in accordance with the appropriate DOD Technical Manual. Grease traps will be used, if applicable, for large mess units. Field latrines and showers will also be constructed in accordance with DOD manuals and local regulations. All grey water from these facilities will be discharged directly on the ground, in soakage pits, or transported to approved evaporation ponds, as required by state and local laws. Any permits required by the appropriate state environmental agencies for such wastewater discharges will be obtained prior to initiation of the project.

Fuel is usually purchased on an as-needed basis from local, fixed fuel facilities. However, projects that are conducted for longer periods of time and/or in remote locations will require the use of fuel bladders and other POL dispensing equipment. All POL storage and dispensing facilities are constructed and operated in accordance with applicable DOD technical manuals. Special measures

such as fuel bladder berms and use of drip pans to contain loss of POL materials will be implemented. Absorbent material is also stored on site to allow rapid clean up of small spills. All spills, regardless of size, will be reported to the unit commander responsible for the incident and to JTF-6. JTF-6 is responsible for reporting to the appropriate Federal and state environmental regulatory agency. All units expected to use or store POL are required to submit a SPCCP to JTF-6 prior to deployment to the project site.

As mentioned previously, the requesting LEA is responsible for the acquisition of all construction materials that will be left on-site. Such items include, but are not limited to, lumber, concrete, fencing, sand and aggregates, paint, electrical wiring, roofing, concrete/cinder blocks, and tin sheeting. Food, POL, and equipment parts may be purchased by JTF-6 from local or home base sources. Maintenance of facilities constructed or upgraded by JTF-6 may be provided by JTF-6 or the requesting LEA.

1.8 REPORT ORGANIZATION

This PEIS is divided into 10 major sections, including this introduction (Section 1). Section 2 provides a description of the alternatives considered during this evaluation, as well as the alternatives generally considered during the planning of each specific JTF-6 project. This section also provides a summary of the impacts (previous and potential) associated with the JTF-6 program as well as a discussion of the relationship of the JTF-6 program with other Federal activities. Brief descriptions of the existing natural and human environment are presented in Section 3. These descriptions are summaries of detailed discussions presented in a 5-volume document (Environmental Baseline Documents) previously prepared by JTF-6. Environmental consequences of each JTF-6 support category on the natural and socioeconomic resources within the project area are addressed in Section 4. This discussion includes a description of the past and expected cumulative impacts. Mitigation measures that are generally implemented by JTF-6 as part of their standard operations procedures are presented in Section 5. The public involvement process is discussed in Section 6 and includes comments received and responses prepared during the public comment period. Sections 7, 8, 9, and 10 present a list of the persons involved in the preparation of this document, a list of acronyms, references cited in the document, and an index, respectively. Appendix A is a copy of the INS/EPA

cooperative agreement. Appendix B includes supporting documents of the public involvement program such as copies of the Notices of Availability published in local newspapers. Appendix C contains a copy of DOD Directive 6501.

2.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Three alternatives were considered during the preparation of this PEIS: (1) continue the program, (2) continue the program but limit it only to operational and general support services and (3) no action. The latter alternative, in essence, results in discontinuance of the JTF-6 program. The type and magnitude of the impacts associated with each alternative would vary, particularly with Alternative 1; general types of impacts associated with each alternative are summarized in Table 2-1 and are based upon past and expected future actions. Each alternative is discussed in more detail in the following paragraphs. Detailed descriptions of the known and expected impacts associated with the JTF-6 program are presented in Section 4 of this PEIS.

2.1 ALTERNATIVE 1. CONTINUATION OF THE JTF-6 PROGRAM

This alternative would provide the support to the various LEAs that is necessary to allow them to become more technically and cost efficient in performance of their respective missions. This alternative also satisfies the objective of involving the military in the President's National Drug Control Strategy. Continuation of the JTF-6 program will have unavoidable adverse impacts, primarily to vegetation communities which have encroached within road and fence rights-of-way. Consequential effects to wildlife populations, due to reductions/alterations of habitats, will also occur. Beneficial effects that would result from selection of this alternative would include increased detection, deterrence, and apprehension of illegal smuggling activities with concomitant benefits of reduced enforcement costs, losses to personal properties, violent crimes, and entitlement program costs. This alternative is considered the preferred alternative.

Various alternatives to specific projects within this program are always considered during the evaluation of the project's needs and potential impacts. Cost of the project to JTF-6, benefit to the LEA, potential of multi-agency benefits, documented need for the project, scheduling conflicts with reproductive seasons of protected floral and faunal species, ability of the project to provide METL items to the participating unit, and availability of units are all issues considered during the identification and planning of specific a project. Alternatives which are usually addressed for each type of action under each support group is listed below. It should be noted that this list is not all

TABLE 2-1. SUMMARY MATRIX OF IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH PROGRAM ALTERNATIVES

	ALTERNATIVE 1 CONTINUE PROGRAM	ALTERNATIVE 2 MODIFIED PROGRAM	ALTERNATIVE 3 NO ACTION
SOILS	Soil disturbance for engineering projects with concomitant erosion potential without adequate mitigation; extant erosion problems halted or reduced in some areas.	No additional soil disturbances; extant erosion problems will continue.	LEAs will eventually have to upgrade or construct roads, ranges, etc. with similar or worse consequences to soils.
WATER SUPPLY AND QUALITY	Insignificant effect to surface water quality during construction activities; indirect improvements by reduction of extant erosion problems; insignificant amounts of potable water supply consumed by JTF-6 personnel; no effect on groundwater supplies expected.	No additional temporary effects to surface water bodies; surface water will continue to receive erosional contaminants without erosion control implemented by JTF-6; no significant effects on ground water supplies expected.	Surface waterbodies will continue to receive eroded sediments without JTF-6 actions. Less demand on local supplies due to lack of large operational or engineering support operations.
AIR QUALITY	Slight, temporary increases in pollutants during construction activities and helicopter flights; actions would not result in exceedance of state/EPA standards or otherwise produce a nonconformance declaration.	No effect on air quality.	Effect on air quality similar to Alternative 1 although will be spread over much longer time since LEAs will eventually perform upgrade/construction activities.
NOISE	Temporary increases in noise levels during construction activities, weapons training, and aircraft flights; ambient noise levels would return immediately upon cessation of such actions.	Temporary noise increases during weapons training and aircraft flights; ambient noise levels would return immediately upon cessation of recurring activities.	Same as Alternative 2; lack of new firing ranges will require more frequent use of extant ranges and thus increase noise at these facilities.

	ALTERNATIVE 1 CONTINUE PROGRAM	ALTERNATIVE 2 MODIFIED PROGRAM	ALTERNATIVE 3 NO ACTION
VEGETATIONAL COMMUNITIES	About 2,500 acres disturbed to date due to construction activities; maximum of 3,000 acres expected to be altered during the next five years.	No additional alteration of vegetational communities would be expected. Uncontrolled access and use of lands by drug traffickers will continue to adversely affect vegetational communities.	Vegetation would continue to reclaim roads used by LEA for reconnaissance and/or enforcement action. Uncontrolled access and use of lands by drug traffickers will continue to adversely affect vegetational communities.
WILDLIFE	Individual specimens temporarily affected by construction and/or training activities and helicopter flights; some individuals (e.g., subterranean reptiles) may be crushed/trampled by equipment; reduction in habitat capable of supporting up to 36,000 lizards, 1,260 birds, and 8,370 small mammals.	Startled responses by individuals as a result of training activities, no long-term or cumulative significant adverse effects to wildlife populations. Indirect destruction of vegetational communities caused by uncontrolled access or use will have concomitant results to wildlife.	Indirect destruction of vegetational communities caused by uncontrolled access or use will have concomitant results to wildlife.
FISHERIES	Little or no significant effects on fish population due to nature of JTF-6 actions and limited permanent waterbodies in project areas.	Same as Alternative 1.	Same as Alternative 1.
THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES	Seven individual specimens of two cacti species and one specimen of a vine species injured or destroyed; enhanced monitoring mitigation measures developed for future projects; increased knowledge of T&E species populations through field surveys; enhanced habitat for California gnatcatcher; protection of California least tern nesting habitat on California coast.	No additional effects (beneficial or adverse) to T&E species.	Continued loss of California least tern nests from illegal activities; continued scrub encroachment to California gnatcatcher and least Bell's vireo habitat.

	ALTERNATIVE 1 CONTINUE PROGRAM	ALTERNATIVE 2 MODIFIED PROGRAM	ALTERNATIVE 3 NO ACTION
SOCIOECONOMICS	Significant socioeconomic benefits from reductions in illegal drug smuggling and, secondarily, illegal immigration. Positive, but mostly insignificant, local economic benefits from local JTF-6 expenditures.	Significant socioeconomic benefits, though smaller than Alternative 1, from reductions in illegal drug smuggling and, secondarily, illegal immigration. Positive, but insignificant, economic benefits from local JTF-6 expenditures.	Significant socioeconomic costs from continued illegal drug smuggling and, secondarily, illegal immigration.
CULTURAL RESOURCES	Limited site specific impacts have occurred; increased traffic and future maintenance could cause cumulative impacts without mitigation; JTF-6 actions have increased knowledge of cultural resources in the region.	Same as Alternative 1, but without expanded knowledge. Uncontrolled access or use of lands by illegal drug traffickers may adversely affect cultural resources.	Same as Alternative 2.
VISUAL RESOURCES	Some adverse effects associated with engineering operations, particularly straight line border roads and fences. Impacts can be ameliorated through environmental design features. Limited benefits from erosion control and building demolition depending upon severity of existing conditions. Fences can have positive impact by eliminating visibility of trash/litter along border.	No significant adverse impact to visual resources	Litter/trash along border will remain visible. Continued destruction of natural communities due to illegal foot and vehicle traffic.

inclusive, however; evaluation of additional alternatives may be necessary and would be determined on a project by project basis.

2.1.1 Operational Support Services

2.1.1.1 LP/OP operations and ground sensors

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* alternate locations of LP/OP sites and access roads, if required
* permanent vs temporary LP/OP sites
* numbers of service personnel and duration of shift
* availability of nearby sleeping quarters
* re-use of previous TOC

2.1.1.2 Ground Patrol

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* size of patrol units and area to be patrolled
* schedule and duration of patrol mission to avoid conflicts with recreationists
* availability of nearby sleeping quarters and, if necessary, alternate bivouac sites
* aerial reconnaissance vs ground patrol
* re-use of previous TOC

2.1.1.3 Terrain Denial

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* size, schedule and duration of denial exercise
* aerial reconnaissance vs denial exercise
* availability of nearby sleeping quarters and, if necessary, alternate bivouac sites
* alternate sites for TOC
* availability of local electrical source
* purchase of expendable/consumable goods from local sources
* re-use of previous TOCs

2.1.2 Engineering Support Services

2.1.2.1 Roads, Bridges, Culverts and Gabions

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* alternate routes and locations
* construction design and materials
* erosion control measures
* use of extant borrow pits
* expected traffic use and type

* presence of protected species and cultural resources
* schedule of construction activities
* availability of nearby sleeping quarters and, if necessary, alternate bivouac sites
* use of previously disturbed areas for staging and re-fueling
* re-fueling at central, paved locations rather than remote locations accessible only by unpaved roads

2.1.2.2 Weapons Training Facilities

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* availability of existing firing ranges
* availability of on-site borrow materials
* design of lead retention/collection systems
* alternate locations, orientation, and design of ranges/houses
* alternate construction materials
* availability of nearby sleeping quarters
* purchase of consumable goods from local sources
* erosion control

2.1.2.3 Fitness Courses and Obstacle Courses

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* availability of existing training facilities
* alternate locations
* alternate designs and construction materials
* erosion control

2.1.2.4 Helipads and Taxiways

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* alternate locations of helipads, taxiways and access roads
* alternate designs and construction materials
* noise sensitive sites
* blade/prop wash protection
* containment capabilities for accidental POL spills

2.1.2.5 Fence Repair and Construction

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* alternate fence routes and locations for construction staging area
* alternate designs and construction materials
* erosion control
* increased patrol vs fence construction

2.1.2.6 Lighting

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* lighting duration, frequency, type and numbers
* alternate sites, types and numbers of light poles
* increased night patrols vs lights

2.1.2.7 Boat Ramps

The only alternatives usually considered for the construction of boat ramps, in addition to the no action alternative, are alternate sites, designs and construction materials.

2.1.2.8 Water Wells and Septic Systems

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* alternate sites and engineering designs, especially for wastewater treatment systems
* use of bottled water vs water wells
* possible pipeline connection to existing water supply systems
* use of portable/chemical latrines vs treatment systems
* relocation of requesting LEA base of operations
* possible pipeline connection to existing public treatment system

2.1.2.9 Building Construction and Demolition

For these types of projects the following alternatives are considered:

* alternate sites for construction
* different methods of demolition
* alternate engineering designs and materials for construction
* disposal methods for demolition debris

2.1.3 General Support Services

Alternative evaluations associated with this support group involve administrative choices such as the number of military trainers to be sent to an LEA, various computer hardware and data software relative to the LEA's available budget, training locations, or vehicles and aircraft to be used for transportation services.

2.2 ALTERNATIVE 2. CONTINUATION OF MODIFIED JTF-6 PROGRAM

This alternative would provide only operational and/or general support services to the LEAs. No engineering support would be provided under this alternative, which would reduce or eliminate much of the adverse environmental impacts. However, the majority of the projects needed by LEAs involve engineering support; thus, the LEAs would be forced to either do without required facilities or obtain engineering and construction services from other, more costly sources. Some minor adverse impacts, such as temporary increases in air emissions during transportation services would still be considered unavoidable with this alternative. Environmental and socioeconomic benefits would be reduced under this alternative, including a lack of realistic field training scenarios for the military units.

2.3. ALTERNATIVE 3. NO ACTION

Selection of the no action alternative would not satisfy the purpose and need for an enhancement of the efficacy of LEAs involved in drug smuggling activities. It also does not satisfy the intent of the U.S. Congress as specified in the National Defense Authorization Act nor the National Drug Control Strategy which includes as one of its five tenets military assistance in the interdiction and control of illegal drugs. While selection of this alternative would eliminate the potential of adverse environmental impacts, it should be recognized that JTF-6 actions have resulted in an increase in apprehensions and convictions by LEAs, a reduction in number of illegal immigrants crossing the border, increased knowledge of cultural resources and populations of threatened and endangered species, and habitat improvement for an endangered species. Therefore, this alternative is not considered viable.

2.4 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL PROJECTS

Numerous Federal, state and local agencies have or will have planning projects which could affect, or be affected, by the JTF-6 program. The vast geographic area encompassed by this program combined with the difficulty in defining specific projects beyond one year make it virtually impossible to evaluate the specific relationship of the JTF-6 program with other governmental plans.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in conjunction with Mexico's Secretarìa de Desarrollo Urbano y Ecologìa (SEDUE), is currently developing a comprehensive program to identify and rectify environmental problems along the U.S./Mexico border with the ultimate goal of providing for the long term protection of human health and natural ecosystems of the region. This program, known as the "Environmental Plan for the Mexican-U.S. Border Area," was fostered in 1991 as the first step toward providing free trade between the two countries. The two countries recognized that binational free trade could have severe environmental consequences which would have to be addressed and mitigated. The environmental plan is in the first stage of identifying problem areas and extant conditions. The JTF-6 program complements EPA and SEDUE's efforts by providing additional data concerning environmentally sensitive areas and other data pertinent to their program. Consequently, during the early scoping stages for this PEIS, the EPA was requested to participate as a cooperating agency; the request was readily accepted. EPA and JTF-6, through the Fort Worth District Corps of Engineers, are currently exchanging data that have proven to be helpful to both parties.

The International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) is a bilateral organization between the respective State Departments of the United States and Mexico. The primary function of the IBWC is to maintain the correct international boundary line. The IBWC is also responsible for the task of identifying and rectifying wastewater problems within international drainage systems. For over 50 years the IBWC has worked with the two nations' governments to perform sanitation projects along the border region with the intent to provide protection of public health and protect and enhance aquatic ecosystems. The governments of the United States and Mexico through the IBWC have developed a strong cooperative effort in water resources planning including transboundary floodplain drainage and control, utilization of surface water supplies, and water quality preservation. The IBWC has performed these projects since the first water distribution treaty between the two countries in 1906 (TS455; 34 Stat. 2953). The water treaty of February 1944 (TS 994; 59 Stat. 1219) expanded the jurisdiction and responsibility of the IBWC to include those projects along the border and inland where the two countries have constructed international projects. JTF-6 coordinates with IBWC for drainage structures (culverts) that are installed in drainages that have cross-border flows. JTF-6 projects have not affected IBWC plans and projects and, in fact, should complement the IBWC's long term objectives by providing storm water runoff and/or erosion control measures along the U.S. border.

The U.S. Department of the Interior, through three of its primary agencies, the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Park Service (NPS), and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), has regulatory jurisdiction or management responsibilities over vast amounts of Federal lands throughout the southwest. The BLM, in particular, has management responsibilities for millions of acres in New Mexico, Arizona and California. As steward of these lands, the BLM prepares and implements integrated management plans for a variety of natural resources including grazing lands, mineral deposits, water supplies, recreational opportunities, and unique or environmentally sensitive areas and/or species populations. These plans and their associated NEPA documents if applicable, are reviewed during the planning stages of all JTF-6 actions to ensure that no conflicts will be incurred. BLM personnel are also consulted whenever JTF-6 activities are planned near or within lands managed by BLM. There are no known plans to expand BLM-managed lands within the area that is primarily affected by JTF-6 operations.

The FWS has management responsibilities of lands within its refuge and wilderness systems as well as legal jurisdiction over governmental actions, funded solely or partially by the Federal government, which may affect listed threatened or endangered species. JTF-6 routinely consults with the FWS during the planning stages to determine the potential presence and/or effects of the proposed project on protected and candidate species. In cases where FWS lands may be involved, JTF-6 will closely coordinate with the FWS to ensure that the JTF-6 project will not conflict with FWS management plans. There are no known current plans to expand any of the FWS properties located within the JTF-6 program area. Field surveys performed for JTF-6 actions enhance the database for protected species.

The NPS manages several National Parks along the U.S./Mexico border. Portions of some JTF-6 actions have been located within a few of these parks, some of which have been at the joint request of the NPS and Border Patrol. Consequently, the NPS and JTF-6 coordinate closely in order to ensure that JTF-6 operations will complement NPS plans for development or restrictions thereof. The NPS presently has no known plans to expand its landholdings along the southwestern border.

DOD manages several installations along the border including, but not limited to, Fort Bliss, White Sands Missile Range, Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range, Fort Huachuca, Yuma Marine Corps Air Station, Laughlin Air Force Base, Yuma Proving Ground, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, and

Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base. These installations manage vast amounts of lands within the 50-mile corridor in which JTF-6 primarily operates. Since JTF-6 is a DOD agency, close coordination with these installations and their respective commands is routinely performed. Potential conflicts are resolved immediately and prior to initiation of any JTF-6 activities which may affect lands or operations on these installations.

Several Native American nations are also located along the U.S./Mexico border. Because of their sovereign nation status, the individual council overseeing each reservation is consulted on each proposed JTF-6 project which may affect or traverse these lands. Prior approval is required from the respective council before JTF-6 personnel are allowed to begin operations. No past or near-future JTF-6 projects have conflicted with plans or ordinances of the individual reservations under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

JTF-6 has also performed operations within National Forest lands which fall within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Forest Service (NFS). Many of the road repair projects completed by JTF-6 within National Forests have been accomplished at the joint request of the NFS and Border Patrol. Much of the ground patrol services discussed previously also occur on NFS lands. JTF-6 closely coordinates with the NFS to ensure that there are no conflicts with NFS short- or long-term plans for timber harvest, endangered species protection, or recreational opportunities.

Other Federal and state agencies, as applicable, are consulted during the early planning process to ensure that all conflicts with development, operational, or managerial plans are avoided or are resolved prior to initiation of the proposed project.

The relationship of the proposed program with compliance requirements of applicable Federal regulations is presented in Table 2-2.

Table 2-2

Relationship of the Proposed Action to Environmental Requirements and Protection Statutes

Item	Compliance
Federal Statutes	
Archeological and Historic Preservation Act	Partial Compliance [1]
American Indian Religious Freedom Act	Partial Compliance [1]
Archeological Resources Protection Act	Partial Compliance [1]
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act	
Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, as amended	Not Applicable
Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act	Not Applicable
National Historic Preservation Act, as amended	Partial Compliance [1]
National Environmental Policy Act, as amended	Partial Compliance [6]
Rivers and Harbors Act	Partial Compliance [3]
Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act	Full Compliance
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended	Not Applicable
Farmland Protection Policy Act	Partial Compliance [7]
Federal Land Policy and Management Act	Not Applicable
Executive Orders, Memorandums, etc.	
Floodplain Management (EO 11988)	Full Compliance
Protection of Wetlands (EO 11990)	Full Compliance
Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions (E.O. 12114)	Not Applicable
Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment (EO 11593)	Full Compliance
State and Local Regulations	
State water quality standards	Partial Compliance [3]
State water supply and wastewater treatment system regulations	Partial Compliance [8]
Threatened/Endangered species regulations	Partial Compliance

NOTES: Compliance categories:

Full Compliance. All requirements of the statue, EO, or other policy and related regulations have been met for this stage of planning.

Partial Compliance. Some requirements of the statue, EO, or other policy and related regulations remain to be met for this stage of planning.

Not Applicable. Statue, EO, or other policy not applicable.

[1] Full compliance will be achieved when appropriate review and coordination is completed and coordinated with the SHPO, tribal entities, and/or BIA, if required for individual projects.

[2] Full compliance will be achieved when the EIS is filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

[3] Full compliance will be achieved upon issuance of permits and Water Quality Certification from appropriate Corps Districts and state agencies, if required, for individual projects.

[4] Full compliance will be achieved when consistency determination is made in coordination with states of Texas and California, for future site-specific projects.

[5] Full compliance will be achieved when coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is completed for each specific project.

[6] Full compliance will be achieved when the Final EIS is filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

[7] Full compliance will be achieved when the Prime Farmland impact assessment is coordinated with the SCS for individual projects.

[8] Full compliance will be achieved upon receipt of permit, if required, from applicable state agency.

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

As mentioned previously, the JTF-6 program is limited primarily to the four southwestern states, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, and mostly within a 50-mile corridor along the U.S./Mexico border and Texas Gulf coast. Because of the uncertainty of the locations of potential projects outside this corridor, the particular project area for this PEIS (2,800-mile long corridor) extends from Port Arthur, Texas to San Diego, California.

The baseline, or existing, conditions of the human and natural environment along this corridor have been thoroughly described by JTF-6 (1994a) in a five-volume set entitled "Environmental Baseline: Texas Gulf Coast (Volume 1), Texas Land Border (Volume 2), New Mexico Land Border (Volume 3), Arizona Land Border (Volume 4), and California Land Border (Volume 5), as indicated in Figure 3-1. These documents are incorporated herein by reference, as allowed by 40 CFR 1508.02. They serve as technical support documents to this PEIS and are available for public review at the Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' office, whose address appears at the front of this PEIS, and at public libraries and agencies along the border, whose addresses are presented in Appendix B.

The data presented in these documents are on a county level basis and by physiographic province. The resources that have the greatest potential of being affected by JTF-6 operations are briefly discussed in the following paragraphs. These discussions are paraphrases of the detailed descriptions provided in the Environmental Baseline. They are presented herein merely to acquaint the reader with the project region; if additional information is necessary, the reader should refer to the Environmental Baseline documents. For clarity, each volume of the Environmental Baseline technical support documents is summarized separately.

3.1 TEXAS GULF COAST (VOLUME 1)

3.1.1 Geological Resources

The project study area along the Texas Gulf Coast occurs entirely within the Gulf Coastal Plains Physiographic Province. Landforms in the area are subtle and reflect different rock types with the sandstones forming gentle hills and the shales forming valleys.

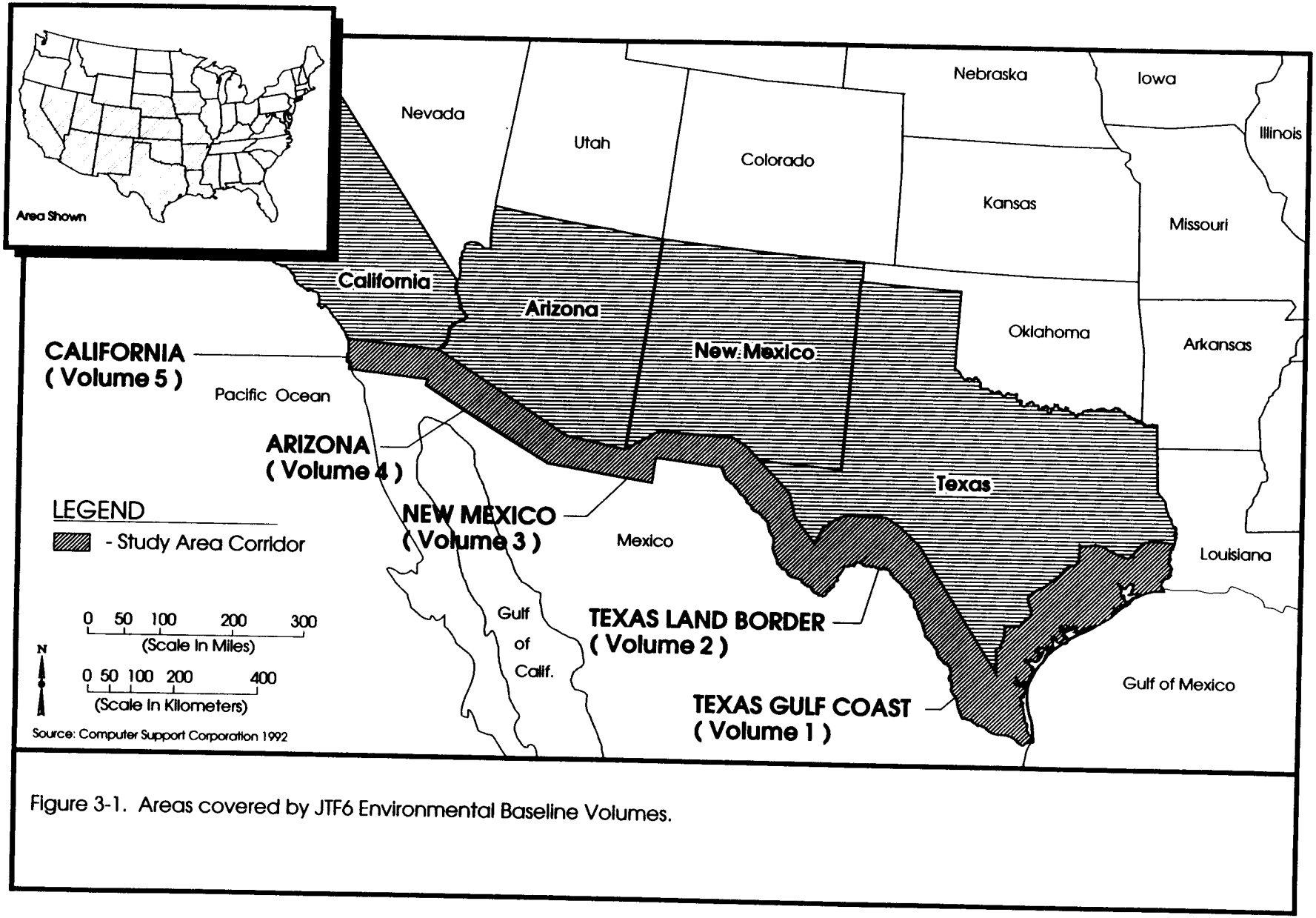

Figure 3-1. Areas covered by JTF6 Environmental Baseline Volumes.

Geology of the study area is characterized by broad sub-parallel bands of Quaternary sedimentary rocks and unconsolidated deposits. Formations include Montgomery, Bentley, Beaumont, and Deweyville. The predominant consolidated rock types are mixed shales and sandstones derived from alluvial deposition.

3.1.2 Soils

Sixteen soil associations occur within the limits of the study area. The soils of the study area are level to undulating and are characterized as having a clayey to loamy texture. An area of sandy soils occurs from Baffin Bay to Brownsville and on Padre Island. The majority of the soil associations present have a high clay content and, consequently, exhibit a slight to moderate level of erodability and a low to high potential to shrink and swell. Therefore, depending on location, limitations to construction could exist due to the presence of clays within the soil profile.

3.1.3 Air Quality

Pollutant emissions from industrial sources, automobiles, urban activities, and annual emissions of toxic air contaminants are substantial for the Texas Gulf Coast area. The 20 Texas Gulf Coast counties are in attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), with the notable exceptions of ozone and total suspended particulates. Mandatory Federal Class I areas are not present within the Texas Gulf Coast segment of the study area. Ozone non-attainment areas include Beaumont-Port Arthur, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria and Victoria. Construction activities which are proposed in non-attainment areas must consider potential effects of air emissions from heavy equipment operations.

3.1.4 Surface Water Resources

A large number of surface water features occur within the study area. These include seven major bays, four major river basins, and numerous lakes and reservoirs.

Existing data indicate a number of water quality problem areas (non-attainment) within the Texas Gulf and Rio Grande hydrologic regions. Major causes of non-attainment include fecal coliform bacteria, organic enrichment/dissolved oxygen, nutrients, salinity/total dissolved solids/chloride, and toxics.

Based on the amount of surface water within the study area, the potential for impacts is high; however, most impacts associated with construction related activities should be short-term in duration. Prior to initiation of projects which may affect surface waters, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Industrial Stormwater permit is obtained.

3.1.5 Groundwater Quality

Groundwater within the study area is supplied by the Gulf Coast aquifer. The Gulf Coast aquifer consists of interbedded and interfingering beds of sand, silt, clay, and gravel. Potential sources of contamination include: (1) current groundwater withdrawals, (2) high chloride levels, (3) high levels of total dissolved solids, (4) hazardous wastes, and (5) underground storage tanks. Another potential source of pollution is untreated wastewater and industrial wastes which may pose a risk to trans-boundary groundwater.

3.1.6 Vegetation Communities

The study area contains several vegetation communities defined on the basis of the interaction of geology, soils, physiography, and climate. These consist of the following: (1) gulf prairies and marshes, (2) pineywoods, (3) post oak/savannah, and (5) south Texas plains.

In addition to vegetation communities, numerous types of invertebrates and non-vascular plants form an extensive biotic community within the various shoreline habitats along the Texas Gulf Coast. The shoreline consists of the following types of shore communities: (1) hard shore, (2) soft shore, and (3) subtidal sands and banks.

3.1.7 Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical/Sensitive Habitats

A total of 81 Federal endangered, threatened, or candidate species occur or potentially occur within the study area. Of these, 23 species are listed as endangered, five as threatened, four as Category 1, and the remainder (49) are listed as Category 2. Category 1 species are those for which enough information is available to support their inclusion to the FWS list as threatened or endangered species. Category 2 species are those which may be considered to be in jeopardy but for which enough information is not available to support their inclusion to the FWS list. The state of Texas lists 37 endangered species and 48 threatened species within the study area.

One Federally-designated critical habitat (land, water, and air) exists for the whooping crane in the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, and the area encompassing the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge is deemed as sensitive habitat.

3.1.8 Unique or Sensitive Areas

A wide variety of unique or sensitive areas exists along the Texas Gulf Coast. These include resacas, springs, coastal barriers and estuaries, wild and scenic rivers, and wetlands.

Resacas are old abandoned river channels which occur throughout the Lower Coast area of the Texas Gulf Coast. Examples include the Bayside Resaca Area and Playa del Rio. Springs are the conduits through which surplus groundwater passes. The study area of the Texas Gulf Coast consists of many seeps (87) and small springs. Coastal barriers are offshore ridges found all along the Texas coast. Examples include Padre Island, Matagorda Island, and Galveston Island. Valuable coastal estuaries such as Laguna Madre are associated with the barrier islands and mainland coastal region.

In addition, only about five percent of the original Southern Texas Tamaulipan brush habitat remains, making this a very sensitive and valuable habitat.

No wild and scenic rivers, as designated by the U.S. Department of Interior, occur within the study area. However, it should be noted that the Rio Grande is considered an endangered river.

A wide variety of wetland types exist within the study area. General wetland categories include bottomland hardwoods, riparian systems, coastal wetlands, and coastal pothole wetlands. Approximately 13,000 acres of coastal wetlands exist within the Gulf Coastal Plains Province. Region 2 of the FWS has compiled a list of priority and candidate wetland sites within the Texas Gulf Coast. Based on this information, 17 priority wetlands and 29 candidate wetlands exist within the Texas Gulf Coast study area.

3.1.9 Socioeconomic Resources

The counties included in the baseline socioeconomic data for the Texas Gulf Coast study area are Orange, Jefferson, Chambers, Harris, Galveston, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Wharton, Matagorda, Jackson, Victoria, Calhoun, Refugio, Aransas, San Patricio, Nueces, Kleberg, Kenedy, Willacy, and Cameron.

Cities within the study area containing more than 50,000 people are Houston, Corpus Christi, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Baytown, Galveston, Victoria, and Brownsville. Harris County, which includes the Houston metropolitan area, contains 60 percent of the total 4.6 million people in the project area. The overall growth in population during the 1980's was 14 percent and was concentrated in Harris County. The study area varies substantially between urban and rural areas, as exhibited by the population densities ranging from 10 persons per square mile to 1,630 persons per square mile. Approximately 81 percent of the total population is composed of non-Hispanic whites and Hispanics, followed by 16 percent African-Americans.

There are a total of 1.9 million housing units in the study area, with 64 percent located in Harris County. The highest home values and rental rates are found in Harris, Aransas, Victoria, Matagorda, and Nueces counties, while the lowest are near the Mexican border. Vacancy rates are lower in the eastern counties and highest in the counties closest to the Mexican border.

The Texas Gulf Coast area had total employment of 2,250,172 in 1991 and an unemployment rate of 6.7 percent. Its economic base is diverse with the largest sectors consisting of services, manufacturing, construction, and transportation. Agriculture and fisheries are also important although they do not comprise a large portion of total employment. The income distribution is also dominated by the manufacturing, services, and construction sectors.

3.1.10 Cultural Resources

Within the Texas Gulf Coast Plain, prehistoric occupations occur mainly as open-air sites situated on either Holocene alluvial terraces adjacent to streams and rivers or on the broad upland remnants of Pleistocene alluvial terraces (Black 1989). Site locations in the interior zone appear primarily in a savanna or coastal plain environment and were occupied for shorter periods of time in comparison to those farther north in central Texas where permanent sources of water were more abundant (Hester 1981; Black 1989b).

Along the coast, archeological sites are found associated with the complex coastal network of estuaries and bays. Based on a maritime adaptation, sites and artifacts within this area are markedly different than those of the interior savanna and coastal plains (Hester 1981, 1989; Black 1989). The coastal sites occur mainly along the protected estuaries and bays where abundant marine resources

were exploited in this low energy environment. The proximity of the interior savannas to the coastal strip has been suggested as an additional source of food for the coastal oriented groups especially on a seasonal basis when populations may have moved between the two areas (Hester 1981). The archeological documentation of this patterning has proved elusive, however, and the exact relationships between the inland and coastal regions are at this time still unknown (Collins and Bousman 1990).

A wide range of both prehistoric and historic sites exists in the Texas Gulf Coastal Plain. The number of listed National Register Sites and State Archeological Landmarks varies widely from county to county due to the number of projects completed in the counties rather than the actual number of significant sites and landmarks that may exist there. Historic buildings comprise the majority of the National Register sites in the Texas Gulf Coastal Plain. Historic site types include forts, shipwrecks, plantations, lighthouses, depots, battlefields, battlefield cemeteries, towns, ranches, homesteads, churches, and trading posts.

The types of prehistoric sites differ significantly between the interior and coastal areas. The primary site type found in the interior portions of the study area is the thin deposit, open-air site. The lack of soil development, coupled with erosion and land clearing, has resulted in a great number of these sites being left exposed and unprotected on present-day surfaces. Due to the lack of soil development, often compounded by deflation and a shorter occupation span, there are very few stratified sites within the Texas Gulf Coastal Plain area. Indeed, it is not unusual to find a site with mixed surface deposits dating from the late Paleo-Indian period through the Late Archaic and Late Prehistoric periods.

Although sites within the major river valleys can occur in various locations and may vary more in character than those situated farther inland, these sites tend to be concentrated within the riparian zones. In these areas, there is some evidence for specialization between larger campsites closest to the drainages and foraging sites farther away from the perennial streams (Hester 1981; Bousman et al. 1990). Quarry workshops along gravel outcrops also have been documented in association with this kind of settlement pattern (Hester 1981).

Within the wetland regions of the coast itself, shell middens and dune occupations are the dominant site types. Shell middens occur mainly on the margins of the protected estuary bays within the range of brackish to saltwater, suggesting that the placement of these sites was determined by the presence of desired saltwater species. Clay dunes represent another site type characterized by small rises along the bays and associated drainages (Hester 1980). The clay dunes are composed of accumulations of fine, windblown sediments, which on the downwind side, have been scoured out. The scoured depressions are usually filled with water derived from seasonal rains, while the adjacent dunes provide an elevated area ideal for camping. The location of the clay dunes near freshwater creeks that flow into estuary systems also provides an optimal area for hunting, fishing, and fowling.

3.2 TEXAS LAND BORDER (VOLUME 2)

3.2.1 Geological Resources

The Texas Land Border project study area lies within three physiographic provinces: the Southern Gulf Coastal Plains (a nearly level to rolling, slightly to moderately dissected plain); the Edwards and Stockton Plateau of the Great Plains (a deeply dissected, rapidly drained stony plain having broad to undulating divides with woodlands and grassy prairie); and the Basin and Range (broad interior drainage basins interspersed with scattered fault-block mountain ranges).

Surface geology consists of broad sub-parallel bands of Cenozoic and Quaternary sedimentary rocks in the Southern Gulf Coastal Plains Province; alternating layers of limestone, shale, and marl in the Great Plains Province; and Quaternary unconsolidated material in the Basin and Range Province.

Mineral resources within the study area are generally limited to energy resource development activities. Oil and/or gas, coal, mercury, and smaller amounts of gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper, and uranium have been identified. Impacts to soil and groundwater from abandoned production operations and waste from both exploration and development are evident within the study area.

3.2.2 Soils

Twenty-one soil associations occur within the limits of the study area. The soils of the study area range from nearly level to hilly and are varied in texture, with sands, loams, and clays present. The

majority of the soil associations present have a slight-to moderate level of erodability. Limitations to construction vary depending upon locational factors and types of construction activity.

3.2.3 Air Quality

The airshed along the Texas Land Border encompasses a largely rural and undeveloped area. The air quality is generally good, except for occasional dust storms. However, there are some substantial air pollution problems associated with urbanization and industrialization in the larger border "sister cities" of Juarez-El Paso. Of the 32 counties within the Texas Land Border, the only non-attainment designations are for ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter in El Paso County. There are two mandatory Federal Class I areas within or near the study area: Big Bend National Park and Guadalupe Mountain National Park.

3.2.4 Surface Water Quality

Surface water features of the study area include the Laguna Madre; the Nueces, Rio Grande, Devils, and Pecos Rivers; numerous reservoirs and lakes including Falcon, Amistad, and San Estaban; and the Arroyo Colorado, along with other smaller irrigation canals.

According to existing data, a number of assessed and monitored stream segments within the study area are unable to fully support their designated uses. The major causes of non-attainment include fecal coliform bacteria, organic enrichment/dissolved oxygen, nutrients, salinity/total dissolved solids/chloride, and toxics. The potential sources contributing to non-attainment include municipal and industrial point sources, non-point sources, natural sources, and unknown sources.

3.2.5 Groundwater Quality

Five major aquifers supply the groundwater used in the study area. These include: (1) the Gulf Coast aquifer, (2) the Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer, (3) the Edwards aquifer, (4) the Edwards-Trinity aquifer, and (5) the Alluvium and Bolson Deposits. Groundwater assessments within the study area indicate that the most common sources for potential contamination include: (1) increased chloride/sulfate concentrations, (2) higher levels of total dissolved solids, (3) natural/man-made low levels of nitrate and fluoride, (4) leachates from hazardous waste site, (5) leaking underground storage tanks, and (6) untreated or partially untreated wastewater and industrial wastes.

3.2.6 Vegetation Communities

Four ecological areas defined on the basis of the interaction of geology, soils, physiography, and climate are found within the study area. These include: (1) gulf prairies and marshes, which is dominated by herbaceous species; (2) south Texas plains, which is dominated by mesquite associations; (3) Edward Plateau, which contains creosotebush, live oak, mesquite, and juniper in various associations; and (4) Trans-Pecos mountains and basins, which is predominately a mixture of creosotebush-lechuguilla shrub and tobosa-black grama grassland.

3.2.7 Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical/Sensitive Habitats

A total of 152 Federal endangered, threatened, or candidate species occur or potentially occur within the study area. Twenty-eight species are listed as endangered, two as proposed endangered, 10 as threatened, 11 as Category 1, and the remainder (101) as Category 2. The State of Texas lists 42 endangered species and 61 threatened species within the study area.

No federally designated critical habitat exists within the study area; however, the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge (The Wildlife Corridor) and twenty-six bird rookeries along the lower coast have been deemed as sensitive habitats.

3.2.8 Unique or Sensitive Areas

A wide variety of unique or sensitive areas exists within the study area. These include arroyos, bolsons, huecos, recacas, springs, wetlands, and coastal barriers (i.e., bars, beaches, islands, spits, and peninsulas).

One wild and scenic river, as designated by the U.S. Department of Interior, occurs within the study area. The Rio Grande from Big Bend National Park downstream to the Terrell-Val Verde County line (a total of 191.2 miles) is designated as a wild and scenic river. The wild and scenic portion of the Rio Grande is also considered as being endangered due to massive timber harvesting. The Rio Grande, outside of the wild and scenic portion, is also considered an endangered river.

Wetland types within the study area include riverine systems, coastal wetlands (consisting of salt/freshwater marshes, deltas, coastal bays, and estuaries); coastal pothole wetlands, and freshwater springs. According to Region 2 of the FWS, one priority wetland (Playa Del Rio in Cameron

County) and twelve candidate wetlands that quality for acquisition under the Emergency Wetland Resources Act of 1986 are located within the study area.

3.2.9 Socioeconomic Resources

Because of the expansive area encompassed by the Texas Land Border project area, this discussion is further subdivided into three project subareas based upon the physiographic provinces used in the Environmental Baseline technical support documents (JTF-6 1994a).

3.2.9.1 Southern Gulf Coastal Plains Province

The counties included in the baseline socioeconomic data are Cameron, Willacy, Kenedy, Hidalgo, Brooks, Starr, Jim Hogg, Webb, La Salle, Zapata, Dimmit, Maverick, Zavala, Uvalde, Kinney, and Val Verde (Duval County has no significant socioeconomic resources within the border corridor). The total population for 1990 was 987,586, with the majority located in Cameron, Hidalgo, and Webb counties. The population growth rate since 1980 was 25 percent, with most activity in Cameron, Hidalgo, Webb, and Maverick counties. The largest ethnic group is Hispanic (87 percent) followed by 12 percent non-Hispanic whites. The largest cities in the study area include Laredo, Brownsville, and McAllen; however, only Laredo has a population larger than 100,000.

There were a total of 329,099 housing units in the study area in 1990. Hidalgo and Cameron counties contained the majority of units as well as the highest vacancy rates. In general, the study area has low median housing values and rental rates when compared to the national averages. However, Webb and Cameron counties have substantially higher values than the other counties.

The unemployment rate in the study area was 15.5 percent, significantly above the national rate. Between counties, unemployment ranged from zero to over 20 percent; the two most populous counties had unemployment rates above 10 percent.

Employment and income distribution is dominated by the governmental and manufacturing sectors. Manufacturing is strongly affected by international trade with Mexico.

3.2.9.2 Great Plains Province

The Great Plains baseline socioeconomic data are for Uvalde, Kinney, Val Verde, Edwards, Terrell,

and Brewster counties. Sutton, Crockett, and Pecos counties are not included because they do not contain significant socioeconomic resources within the border corridor. Total population of these counties in 1990 totalled 77,537, with Val Verde and Uvalde counties being the most populated. In general, the study area is sparsely populated, with densities ranging from less than one person per square mile to 15 persons per square mile. One major town, Del Rio, with a population of 30,705, is situated within the Texas Land Border study area. Approximately 63 percent of the population is Hispanic and 35 percent non-Hispanic white.

There are a total of 32,264 housing units in the area and most are located in Val Verde and Uvalde counties. The overall vacancy rate is high (22 percent) and ranges from 15 percent in Val Verde County to 49 percent in Edwards County. As compared to the national figures, the median housing values and rental rates in the study area are low.

Unemployment in the Great Plains counties was 8.80 percent in September 1991, which is above the national rate. The rural counties exhibited low rates while the more populated counties displayed higher unemployment rates. Industries dominating the area's employment and income distribution include the governmental, trade, and transportation sectors. All of these sectors are significantly affected by international trade with Mexico. In addition, the agricultural sector has an important economic role and is also important to trade with Mexico.

3.2.9.3 Basin and Range Province

The counties included in the socioeconomic analysis for the Basin and Range area are Brewster, Presidio, Jeff Davis, Culberson, Hudspeth, and El Paso. El Paso County and the city of El Paso are the dominant socioeconomic features with the remaining counties being rural in nature and sparsely populated. About 96 percent of the total population (615,196 people) is located in El Paso County. The population growth rate since 1980 has been 23 percent. The dominating ethnic group is Hispanic (69 percent) with non-Hispanic whites making up an additional 26 percent. Consistent with population, El Paso County contains nearly all (94 percent) of the housing units.

Employment in the study area is dominated by El Paso. The overall unemployment rate was 11.21 percent in September 1991, higher than the national average. Economic structure considers only El Paso County, as the remaining counties are predominantly rural and agricultural. The largest

economic sectors in El Paso are government and manufacturing, both contributing heavily to employment and income. In addition, trade is important to the economy since El Paso is a main gateway for trade with Mexico.

3.2.10 Cultural Resources

This discussion is further subdivided into two subsections: the South Texas Plains Region and the Trans Pecos Region.

3.2.10.1 South Texas Plains Region

There is a wide range of both prehistoric and historic site types in the South Texas Plains region. The number of listed National Register Sites and State Archeological Landmarks varies widely from county to county. This is not necessarily due to the actual number of significant sites and landmarks that exist there, but rather due to the number of projects completed in each county. Historic site types in the region include the archeological remains and architectural components from shipwrecks, industrial buildings, opera houses, schools, forts, courthouses and other civic buildings, hotels, bridges, post offices, stores, ranches, and houses.

The types of prehistoric sites found in the South Texas Plains region and the artifacts within them can differ significantly depending upon whether the sites are located in the Rio Grande Plain or Rio Grande Delta area. The primary site type found in the Rio Grande Plain (associated with the interior savanna) is the thin deposit, open-air site. The lack of soil development, coupled with erosion and land clearing, has resulted in a great number of these sites being left exposed and unprotected on present-day surfaces. Due to the lack of soil development, often compounded by deflation, and a shorter occupation span, there are very few stratified sites within the Rio Grande Plain. Indeed, it is not unusual to find a site with mixed surface deposits dating from late Paleo-Indian times through the Late Archaic and Late Prehistoric periods.

Sites in the Rio Grande Delta can occur in various locations and vary more in character than those within the Rio Grande Plain. On the margins of the Delta, sites tend to be concentrated along the various riparian zones. In these areas, there is some evidence for specialization between larger campsites closest to the drainages and foraging sites farther out from the perennial drainages

(Bousman et al. 1990; Hester 1981). Quarry workshops, located along gravel outcrops, are another kind of special activity site situated along the margins of the Delta (Hester 1981).

Within the wetland region of the coast itself, shell middens and dune occupations are the dominant site types. Shell middens occur mainly on the margins of the protected estuary bays within the range of brackish to saltwater, indicating that the placement of these sites was determined by the presence of desired saltwater species. Clay dunes represent another site type characterized by small rises along the bays and associated drainages (Hester 1980). The clay dunes are composed of accumulations of fine, windblown sediments, which on the downwind side, have been scoured out. The scoured depressions are usually filled with water derived from seasonal rains, while the adjacent dunes provide an elevated area ideal for camping. The location of the clay dunes near freshwater creeks that flow into estuary systems also provides an optimal area for hunting, fishing, and fowling.

3.2.10.2 Trans-Pecos Region

A broad range of prehistoric and historic site types are found in the Trans-Pecos region. Due to the difference in the number of projects completed in each county, the number of listed National Register Sites and State Archeological Landmarks varies widely from county to county. Historic site types include courthouses, jails, houses, farms, ranches, mines, churches and synagogues, schools, mills, forts, military water systems, hotels, stage coach stations, emigrant trails, battle sites, missions, train stations, clinics, clubs, theaters, stores, banks, and other commercial buildings.

By far the most common types of prehistoric sites found within the Trans-Pecos region are base camps and campsites. Both types consist of open-air sites principally defined by a scatter of lithics and/or ceramics. Deposits associated with these kinds of sites in the region tend to be surficial, and if containing more than one component, usually are mixed due to soil deflation. In some circumstances, midden deposits may exist on some sites. Within the Puebloan subregion, many of the base camps contain above-ground structures. Base camps outside the Puebloan subregion contain features such as rock hearths, scatters of burned rock, and at times, ring middens (Hedrick 1989). Open campsites in the Trans-Pecos region also are defined principally by a scatter of lithics and/or ceramics, but as opposed to base camps, were occupied only periodically. Examples of campsites would be tool manufacturing and food processing sites.

Rockshelters also can be found in the Trans-Pecos region, especially along the steeper gradients of river valleys, smaller creeks, and springs. Deposits associated with rockshelters tend to be smaller in area but are often more substantial than deposits at open-air sites. Perishable items such as basketry, cordage, textiles, and wood are often found in these kinds of sites. Petroglyphs are frequently found within or near rockshelters, or can occur as separate entities. In the interior subregion of the Trans-Pecos, quarry sites are common as well, and can occur along any good outcrop of lithic material. Quarry sites are characterized by lithic debris composed of large cores and bifaces and quantities of primary flakes.

Ring middens and rock circles also occur in the interior and plains subregions. Ring middens are defined by a ring of hearthstones eight to 10 meters in diameter with a deposit of ash in the center (Hedrick 1989). In the interior subregion these kinds of sites may have functioned as roasting ovens for desert succulents such as agave and yucca. Rock circles are represented by smaller rings of unburned stones (one to three meters in diameter) with no interior feature. These particular sites tend to be located in elevated areas and may have served as observation points, perhaps associated with the historic Apache (Hedrick 1989).

3.3 NEW MEXICO LAND BORDER (VOLUME 3)

3.3.1 Geological Resources

The project area along the New Mexico Land Border occurs entirely within the Basin and Range Physiographic Province. This province includes a large portion of the western United States and is characterized by block-faulted ranges separated by broad intermontane basins.

Rocks and sediments exposed at the surface in the eastern part of southern New Mexico are predominantly Quaternary alluvium and sand dunes, and lower Permian carbonates and mixed clastic sediments. The surface geology of the central and western parts of southern New Mexico is characterized by an alternation between Quaternary surficial deposits and a varied age range of igneous intrusives, volcanoes, and mixed fragments of older rocks and carbonate sedimentary rocks.

Southern New Mexico contains an abundance of valuable mineral resources including: copper, silver, gold, lead, and iron. Mining activities, especially those that are now inactive and that predate the

current regulatory climate, are of particular concern. Abandoned mine sites, which are scattered throughout the study area, have the potential to impact surface and groundwater features.

3.3.2 Soils

Twenty-two soil associations occur within the limits of the study area. The soils of the study area are varied in texture and range from fine sands to clay loams. Of the 22 soil associations present, 10 have a low to moderate level of erodability and 12 have a low to severe level of erodability. Limitations to construction varies geographically depending upon the soil association(s) encountered.

3.3.3 Air Quality

The majority of the New Mexico Land Border area is sparsely settled rangeland, desert, or semi-desert. Except for episodes of wind-borne dust, the air quality is generally good. However, in the few areas of urbanization and industrialization, air pollution problems do exist.

Man-made sources of air contaminants include industrial emissions, mobile emissions, area emissions, and wind-borne dust from agriculturally disturbed lands. Annual emissions of toxic air contaminants are low, with the exception of emissions from mining/smelting facilities located in Hidalgo and Grant Counties.

The majority of the New Mexico Land Border study area is in attainment for criteria pollutants, with the exception of two areas. These are the town of Anthony in Doña Ana County classified as non-attainment for particulate matter, and an area around the Phelps-Dodge Chino copper smelter in Grant County, listed as non-attainment for sulfur dioxide. There are no mandatory Federal Class I areas within the New Mexico study area.

3.3.4 Surface Water Quality

Surface water features within the study area include the Mimbres River, the Rio Grande, numerous playa lakes, and a number of smaller streams which are intermittent or ephemeral in nature.

According to existing data, the Rio Grande between Leasburg Dam and the New Mexico-Texas border cannot fully support its designated uses. The potential sources contributing to non-attainment

of assigned uses in streams and rivers include the following: agricultural, municipal point sources, hydromodification, non-point sources, and natural sources.

3.3.5 Groundwater Quality

Groundwater within the study area is supplied by the Rio Grande Valley, Las Cruces-area aquifers and the Southwestern New Mexico aquifer. The Rio Grande Valley, Las Cruces-area aquifers are a valley-fill system that consists of alluvial and terrace deposits; whereas, the Southwestern New Mexico aquifer is a basin-filled aquifer that consists of fluvial, lacustrine, and eolian deposits. Groundwater assessments indicate that the most common sources of aquifer contamination include: (1) high nitrate and ammonia levels from sewage treatment plants, (2) bacteria from septic tanks, (3) trace compounds from mining activities, (4) leachates from commercial and industrial sites, (5) underground storage tanks, and (6) hazardous waste sites.

3.3.6 Vegetation Communities

Five vegetation communities defined on the basis of the interaction of geology, soils, physiography, and climate are found within the study area. These include: (1) forest, (2) woodland-savanna, (3) grassland, (4) scrubland, and (5) riparian.

3.3.7 Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical/Sensitive Habitat

A total of 33 Federal endangered, threatened, and candidate species occur within the study area. Nine species are listed as endangered, one is listed as threatened, and 23 are listed as Category 2. Two of the 15 wetland-dependent Federally listed species in New Mexico occur within the study area. The state of New Mexico lists 28 endangered plant species, 45 rare and candidate plant species, 21 E1 animal species, and 34 E2 animal species within the study area. Animal species whose survival or recruitment within the state is in jeopardy, or is likely to become jeopardized in the near future, are classified as Endangered 1 (E1) and Endangered 2 (E2), respectively.

One Federally designated critical habitat exists for the New Mexican ridge-nosed rattlesnake in the Animas Mountains in Hidalgo County. A variety of Federal sensitive habitats occur in the study area including habitats for desert bighorn sheep, Mexican duck, Iranian ibex, and Sneed's pincushion cactus; three BLM research natural areas; 11 designated Wilderness Study Areas; 12 Areas of

Critical Environmental Concern; and one proposed Area of Critical Environmental Concern for the Organ and Franklin Mountains.

3.3.8 Unique and Sensitive Areas

A wide variety of unique or sensitive areas exist within the study area. These include playas located in Hidalgo and Grant Counties, springs along the Rio Grande and Mimbres Rivers, the San Simon Cienega in Hidalgo County, arroyos throughout the Basin and Range Province, and a large area of "sand dunes" west of Las Cruces.

No wild and scenic rivers, as designated by the U.S. Department of Interior, occur within the study area. However, the Rio Grande in New Mexico is considered an endangered river due to pollution from cyanide-leaching mining operations, drainage, overgrazing, agricultural water diversions, silt-laden flows, and plutonium and other types of nuclear waste.

Wetland types within the study area include riverine and riparian ecosystems, playa lakes, desert springs, and cienegas. Approximately 12,756 acres of wetlands occur within the Basin and Range Province. According to Region 2 of the FWS, none of New Mexico's priority/candidate wetlands in the study area qualified for acquisition under the Emergency Wetland Resources Act of 1986. In addition, the BLM has designated eleven riparian areas in the Mimbres Resource Area.

3.3.9 Socioeconomic Resources

The counties included in the socioeconomic baseline data for the New Mexico Land Border study area are Otero, Doña Ana, Luna, Grant, and Hidalgo. The total population in the project area is 239,182 with over half located in Doña Ana County. Las Cruces and Alamogordo are the main population areas which could be affected by JTF-6 activities, as the remainder of the study area is largely Federally managed and rural in nature. While the ethnic mix of the area is largely Hispanic and non-Hispanic whites, there is a substantial population of Native Americans (the Mescalero Apache Indian Nation) in Otero County. Consistent with the largest population areas, the majority of housing units are also located in Doña Ana and Otero counties.

Employment varies among counties; however, for the study area in general, Federal, state, and local government jobs account for one third of total employment. Other leading employment sectors

include service, retail trade and manufacturing. Similar to employment, the governmental sector accounts for the largest share of income, followed by service and manufacturing. Doña Ana and Hidalgo counties exhibit the highest median family income, while Luna County has the lowest.

3.3.10 Cultural Resources

What is known about the prehistoric and historic occupation of Southern New Mexico is the result of extensive surveys and a few excavation projects. The survey projects have provided information on 10,965 sites in the Archaeological Records Management System (ARMS) and Fort Bliss databases combined. Only a small number of sites are on the National Register of Historic Places or the State Register of Cultural Properties; however, the majority of sites are potentially eligible for inclusion in the Register. These include historic buildings and districts in Las Cruces, Deming, Columbus, and Lordsburg; a few military forts and other isolated properties; and a series of Animas-phase sites in the New Mexico Bootheel. There are several protected archeological districts within the Fort Bliss Military Reservation. Surveys related to the recent reconstruction of the border roads revealed the presence of numerous sites of both the prehistoric and historic occupations of the region. Many of these sites are considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

All of the prehistoric properties presently listed on the NRHP are large habitation pueblos located in the New Mexico Bootheel. The sites date to the Animas phase (circa A.D. 1150-1300). The variety of historic period properties on the Register reflects the history and settlement of the region. Private residences, commercial buildings, and civic (e.g., courthouses, post offices) and educational (e.g., school and university) buildings make up approximately half of the listings. Historic district and townsite listings include the Alameda-Depot, Mesquite Street Original Townsite, and Mesilla Plaza districts in Doña Ana County; the Village of Columbus and Camp Furlong in Luna County; and Shakespeare Ghost Town in Hidalgo County. Military forts (e.g., Fort Selden), engineering structures (e.g., American Diversion Dam and International Boundary Marker Number One), religious buildings, and other properties (e.g., mines, springs, a stage station) make up the rest of the register listings.

3.4 ARIZONA LAND BORDER (VOLUME 4)

3.4.1 Geological Resources

The project study area along the Arizona Land Border lies within the Basin and Range Physiographic Province and is characterized by intensely deformed and intruded strata within numerous relatively elevated and depressed fault blocks. The Basin and Range Province, in the study area, is subdivided into two physiographic sub-provinces, the Mexican Highlands and the Sonoran Desert.

The complex geologic history of the area, including multiple episodes of tectonic activity and marine transgression/regression sequences, has resulted in a highly varied outcrop pattern of relatively small outcrops of rock which represent a time passage of over 1.8 billion years.

Mineral resources in southern Arizona include vast amounts of copper with lesser amounts of other associated precious and base metals (i.e., gold, mercury, manganese, zinc, and lead). Mining is accomplished by leaching, which concentrates the relatively low grade ore. Low concentration, open pit mining practices result in mountains of tailings. Mining activities are widespread in the southern part of the state including areas in western and southern Cochise County, southern Santa Cruz County, central and northeast Yuma County, and south central Pima County.

3.4.2 Soils

Soil composition and other attributes are a function of source material, climate, and topography. Within the study area, there are 44 general soil associations which can be grouped by topography. Levels of erodability vary according to location and steepness of slope. High erodability is associated with mountain and upland/foothill areas. Shrink-swell potential tends to be highest in depositional areas, such as valley slopes and alluvial fan/valley floors where soils tend to consist of higher clay contents.

3.4.3 Air Quality

A number of factors affect the air quality of the study area. These include industrial emissions, vehicular emissions, area emissions, wind-borne dust from agriculturally disturbed lands, smoke from forestry burns, and dust from construction activity in desert areas.

Attainment status designated for the six Arizona-Mexico border counties is as follows: (1) Cochise County, non-attainment for particulate matter and sulfur dioxide; (2) Santa Cruz County, non-attainment for carbon monoxide, particulate matter, and sulfur dioxide; (3) Pima County, non-attainment (partial) for carbon monoxide, particulates, and sulfur dioxide; (4) Maricopa County, non-attainment for ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter; (5) Yuma County, in attainment; and (6) LaPaz County, in attainment.

There are two mandatory Federal Class I areas within the study area. These are the Chiricahua National Monument Wilderness, managed by the National Park Service; and the Chiricahua Wilderness, managed by the Forest Service. Both are located in east-central Cochise County.

3.4.4 Surface Water Quality

Surface water features of the study area include the Colorado River, the Lower Gila River, the Santa Cruz River, the San Pedro River, the Yaqui River, several playa lakes, various irrigation canals, and numerous smaller streams which are intermittent or ephemeral in nature.

According to existing data, none of the assessed and monitored stream segments in the study area can fully support their designated uses. The major causes of stream/riverine non-attainment include metals, ammonia, low dissolved oxygen, turbidity, total dissolved solids, and fecal coliform bacteria. The potential sources contributing to non-attainment include municipal point sources, agriculture irrigation and recirculation, range management, mining, and nonpoint sources.

3.4.5 Groundwater Quality

Within the Basin and Range Province, alluvial and bedrock aquifers are prevalent; however, the alluvial fill aquifers provide most of the usable groundwater. About 92 percent of all groundwater withdrawn per day comes from alluvial aquifers. Two federally designated sole source aquifers, the Bisbee-Naco, and the Upper Santa Cruz, are located within the study area. Groundwater assessments indicate that the most common sources of aquifer contamination include: (1) high nitrate and ammonia levels from sewage treatment plants, (2) bacteria from septic tanks and raw sewage from Mexico, (3) trace compounds from mining activities, (4) leachates from commercial and industrial sites, (5) underground storage tanks, and (6) hazardous waste sites.

3.4.6 Vegetation Communities

Four vegetation communities defined on the basis of the interaction of geology, soils, physiography, and climate are found within the study area. These include: (1) forest, which is subdivided into petran montane conifer forest and petran subalpine conifer forest; (2) woodland, which includes madrean evergreen woodland; (3) grassland, which is subdivided into semidesert grassland and plains and Great Basin grassland; and (4) desert scrubland, which is subdivided into Sonoran Desert scrub and Chihuahuan Desert scrub.

3.4.7 Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical/Sensitive Habitats

A total of 107 Federally endangered, threatened, and candidate species occur within the study area. Nineteen species are listed as endangered, five as threatened, one as proposed threatened, 13 as Category 1, two as proposed Category 1, and the remainder (67) as Category 2. Eight of the 20 wetland-dependent Federally listed species in Arizona occur within the study area. The state of Arizona lists 21 highly safeguarded, 133 salvage-restricted, seven salvage-assessed, and nine harvest-restricted plant species in the study area. In addition, all members of the genus *Cereus* are classified as export restricted. A number of faunal species are also listed; 30 as endangered, 11 as threatened, and 28 as candidate.

Seven Federal critical habitats have been designated within the study area. These include the following habitats: Cochise-Yaqui chub, Yaqui catfish, and beautiful shiner in San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge; New Mexican ridge-nosed rattlesnake in the Animas Mountains; whooping crane in the Wilcox Playa; Santa Cruz-Sonora chub in Sycamore Canyon; desert pupfish in various small springs and streams in the Coronado National Forest; and Quitobaquito-desert pupfish in Quitobaquito Spring. In addition, the Colorado River from Imperial Dam north was listed on 21 March 1994 (59 FR 133374) as a critical habitat for the razorback sucker. A variety of Federal sensitive habitats occur in the study area and include the following: habitats for 28 Federally listed species; 13 designated Wilderness Study Areas; six designated Research Natural Areas with eight more proposed; and 37 proposed Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

3.4.8 Unique or Sensitive Areas

A wide variety of unique or sensitive areas exist within the study area. These include Wilcox Playa in Cochise County; springs along the San Pedro, Santa Cruz, Gila, and Lower Colorado Rivers;

Quitobaquito Spring in Pima County and Monkey Spring in Santa Cruz County; Cienegas in Cochise and Santa Cruz Counties; arroyos and associated riparian communities through the Basin and Range Province; sand dunes at the Cactus Plain Natural Area; the Pinacate Lava Flow in Yuma County; and Kartchner Caverns State Park in Cochise County.

No wild and scenic rivers, as designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior, occur within the study area. However, 37 stream segments within the study area are protected by various Federal and state agencies.

Wetland types within the study area include riverine and riparian ecosystems, playa lakes, desert springs, and cienegas. According to Region 2 of the FWS, four priority wetlands that quality for acquisition under the Emergency Wetland Resources Act of 1986 are located within the study area. In addition, the BLM has designated the San Pedro River from the U.S./Mexico border north to Benson, a Riparian National Conservation Area, to be managed in a manner that conserves, protects, and enhances paleontological, scientific, cultural, educational and recreational resources of the conservation area.

3.4.9 Socioeconomic Resources

The counties included in the socioeconomic baseline data are Cochise, Santa Cruz, Pima, and Yuma. The 1990 total population for the four-county area was 901,075, with 666,880 located in Pima County. Of the Pima County total, 405,390 persons are in the city of Tucson. In general, the area is very rural. Most of the land is owned by the Federal government and managed by various agencies (e.g., Department of Defense, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management), and Native American Nations. These areas are unlikely to be affected by JTF-6 actions. However populated areas may potentially be affected by JTF-6 (Tucson and other smaller cities). Non-Hispanic whites comprise the largest portion of the population, followed by Hispanics, African-Americans, then Native Americans. The distribution of housing units follows that of population with most units located in Pima County.

The economic structure of the study area varies between the urban and rural areas. The leading employment and income sectors include government, services, retail trade, and manufacturing.

3.4.10 Cultural Resources

The majority of the archeological sites across southern Arizona have been found near or along the many intermittent drainages that flow southward across the United States/Mexican border. In southeastern Arizona, significant Paleo-Indian sites, such as Lehner, Murray Springs, Double Adobe, and Naco have been documented along the drainage systems of the Sulphur Springs and San Pedro rivers (Martin and Plog 1973). In south-central and far southwestern Arizona, the highest concentrations of archeological sites are found along the Santa Cruz, Lower Colorado, and Gila rivers.

Based on the recent results of the Douglas-Naco sector survey in southeastern Arizona, the majority of the sites along the JTF-6 corridor have been located on terraces and ridges flanking drainages and small washes (Martynec and Peter 1992). Some sites also have been found within the floodplains of some drainages. From the recent results of the Tohono O'odham survey in south-central Arizona, half of the sites along the JTF-6 corridor have been located on terraces and ridges near drainages (Martynec et al. 1992). The remaining sites were found on flats or on upland bajadas. A similar pattern of site distribution is expected to apply along the JTF-6 corridor in far southwestern Arizona, especially between the dune fields east of Yuma and the Tinajas Altas Mountains where there are numerous small, southern-flowing drainages.

Historic properties in southern Arizona vary greatly in size and configuration. Over 2,000 sites have been recorded within the JTF-6 corridor. The present inventory of sites, however, merely reflects the survey of a very limited portion of Cochise, Pima, and Yuma counties. The present index of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places also represents a small proportion of those sites that might be potentially eligible for the National Register within the JTF-6 corridor. At the present, this listing is quite biased toward historic mining communities, industrial complexes, and ranches. Only a few of the significant prehistoric properties within southern Arizona are so listed.

Three basic types of archeological sites may be expected to be encountered along the JTF-6 corridor in southern Arizona. They are: (1) lithic scatters (likely predominantly prehistoric), (2) limited activity sites (prehistoric and historic), and (3) habitation sites (prehistoric and historic) (Martynec and Peter 1992; Martynec et al. 1992). These sites can range from thin surface scatters to extensive deposits of cultural material with intact middens and features. Rockshelters, petroglyphs, boulder

pictographs, intaglios, shrines, and trails may be encountered along the JTF-6 corridor as well.

Lithic scatters are found near exposed rock outcrops and usually consist of a thin scatter of chipped stone debris including primary and secondary flakes, core and core fragments, and a few tools. Sites of this type reflect specific activities involving the manufacture of lithic tools, and as a rule, usually do not contain other kinds of artifacts or features.

Prehistoric limited activity sites consist of thin artifact scatters and/or cultural deposits that contain a variety of tools (aside from lithic debris) representing more than one kind of activity. These sites typically represent activities involved with the acquisition of food, such as hunting and/or butchering and plant processing. Historic limited activity sites consist of features and/or concentrations of artifacts, such as dams, saguaro fruit camps, trash dumps, mining enterprises, and ranch-related features such as dipping tanks and corrals.

Prehistoric habitation sites represent extensive and dense concentrations of artifacts and, as a rule, contain many features. Such sites represent habitation areas that were occupied permanently or revisited on a seasonal basis. Midden deposits, burials, faunal and macrobotanical remains, and structural features regularly occur on these sites in association with a wide array of artifacts, including chipped and ground stone, worked shell and bone, and large quantities of ceramics. Historic habitation sites represent homesteads that usually contain above-ground structures associated with a scatter of artifacts.

3.5 CALIFORNIA LAND BORDER (VOLUME 5)

3.5.1 Geological Resources

The project study area along the California Land Border occurs within two physiographic provinces: the Southern California Desert and the Peninsular Ranges of the Transverse and Peninsular Ranges. The Southern California Desert is a low elevation desert characterized by flat land and low hills. The Peninsular Range is a northwest-southeast block-faulted mountain range separated by long narrow valleys.

Surface geology of the study area is dominated by Quaternary-aged river deposited alluvium to the east, and Mesozoic-aged igneous intruded rocks to the west. An abundance of northwest-southeast oriented fault systems also occur in the area.

The Southern California Desert portion of the study area contains limited amounts of mineral resources; whereas mining for both industrial minerals and metals has occurred in the Peninsular Ranges. Mining activities have the potential to impact the local environmental quality, with surface water and groundwater at particular risk.

3.5.2 Soils

Limited soils data exist for the Southern California Desert Province. To date, only the Imperial Valley and areas adjacent to the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park have been mapped. The majority of the Peninsular Ranges has been mapped with the soils divided into groups based on topography. Because of the arid conditions the majority of the soils present exhibit high levels of erodability. Conversely, limitations to construction are generally low due to the small amount of clay material within the soil profile.

3.5.3 Air Quality

A number of factors affect the air quality of the study area. The major sources include industrial emissions, vehicular emissions (especially in the San Diego area), and wind-blown dust and pollutants.

Imperial County is in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards except particulate matter, for which it is considered in non-attainment with a moderate classification. San Diego County is designated non-attainment for ozone, with a classification of severe-15. Additionally, the western part of San Diego County is designated non-attainment for carbon monoxide, with a classification of moderate. There are no mandatory Federal Class I areas within Imperial or San Diego Counties.

3.5.4 Surface Water Quality

A large number of surface water features occur within the study area. These include the Lower Colorado, San Diego, San Luis Rey, Santa Margarita, San Dieguito, Sweetwater, Otay and Tijuana Rivers; the Imperial, Senator Wash, El Capitan, Cuyamaca, San Vicente, and Upper and Lower Otay

Reservoirs; the San Diego Aqueduct; the Salton Sea; the Borrego Salton Seaway; three bays/estuaries; numerous lagoons; and various irrigation canals.

Water quality assessments for the study area indicated that the major causes of non-attainment include the following: agricultural drains-pesticides, fertilizers and silt accumulation, and depletion of dissolved oxygen; lake/reservoir and stream/riverine-fecal coliform bacteria, suspended solids, pesticides, fertilizers, selenium, nutrients and sedimentation; estuarine/lagoon-same as stream/riverine; and bay/harbor-fecal coliform bacteria, nutrients, metals, petroleum, and polychlorinated biphenyls. Potential sources contributing to non-attainment include municipal and industrial point sources, non-point sources, agricultural sources, and recreational sources. Pollution sources for some waterbodies, such as the Tijuana River and estuary are located outside the United States; such problems are the focus of the IBWC as well as EPA's Environmental Plan, described previously.

3.5.5 Groundwater Quality

Two major aquifers underlie the study area. Within the Southern California Desert segment, the Basin-Fill aquifer supplies the majority of the useable groundwater. The Peninsular Ranges segment is underlain by the Basin-Fill aquifer and the Alluvium and Older Sediments aquifer.

Groundwater assessments indicate that the most common sources of contamination include: (1) irrigation return flow, (2) application of agricultural pesticides, (3) improper waste disposal, (4) geothermal resources, and (5) untreated or partially untreated wastewater and industrial wastes.

3.5.6 Vegetation Communities

Seven vegetation communities exist within the study area. These include: (1) shrub formations, which are subdivided into chaparral and coastal sagebrush; (2) scrub formations, which are subdivided into Sonoran creosotebush, alkali scrub-woodland, salton sea saltbush, cactus scrub, and oasis scrub-woodland; (3) deserts, which include hot sandy deserts; (4) needle-leaved evergreen forest formations, which are subdivided into juniper-pinyon woodland, mixed hardwood forest, and southern jeffery pine forest; (5) broad leaved forest formations, which include southern oak forest); (6) graminoid formations, which include california prairie and coastal saltmarsh; and (7) formations of coastal complexes, which include southern seashore communities.

In addition to vegetation communities, numerous types of invertebrates and non-vascular plants form an extensive biotic community within the various shoreline habitats along the study area of Southern California. The shoreline consists of the following types of shore communities: (1) coastal sand dunes, (2) beaches, and (3) intertidal areas.

3.5.7 Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical/Sensitive Habitats

A total of 202 federally listed species occur within the study area. Of these, 27 species are listed as proposed endangered or endangered, eight as proposed threatened or threatened, 19 as Category 1, and the remainder (148) are listed as Category 2. The State of California lists 37 endangered species, 12 threatened species, and seven rare species within the study area.

Federally designated critical habitat (land, water, and air) exists for the desert pupfish, least Bell's vireo, and southwestern willow flycatcher within the study area. A critical habitat for the razorback sucker on the Lower Colorado River has also been proposed. A variety of Federal sensitive habitats occurs in the study area and includes the following: the Tijuana River and Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuges; the Tijuana River Valley; the All-American Canal Area; five existing or proposed Areas of Critical Environmental Concern; and one Habitat Management Area.

3.5.8 Unique or Sensitive Areas

A wide variety of unique or sensitive areas exists within the study area. These include the Salton Sea, Tijuana River Estuary, coastal beaches and sand dunes, vernal pools, palm oases, arroyos, springs, and wetlands.

Wetland types within the study area include riparian systems, saltwater/freshwater marshes, vernal pools, and freshwater springs/seeps. Approximately 39,209 acres of wetlands exist within the Southern California Desert portion of the study area, with the majority (20,012 acres) associated with the East Highline Canal. The western portion of the study area (San Diego County) contains approximately 18,511 acres, with the majority (13,417) associated with San Diego Bay.

3.5.9 Socioeconomic Resources

This discussion is further subdivided into two subsections due to the quite different socioeconomic characteristics of the western and eastern California border regions. These discussions are separated

under the same physiographic provinces described in the Environmental Baseline (JTF-6 1994a).

3.5.9.1 Southern California Desert Province

The baseline socioeconomic data for the California land border involves Imperial County. Total population in the county totalled 109,000 as of 1990, exhibiting a substantial growth since 1980. Approximately 66 percent of the population is Hispanic, followed by 29 percent non-Hispanic whites, and other races comprising five percent. There are 36,559 housing units and the vacancy rate is 10.2 percent.

Employment in Imperial County totalled 35,888 in September, 1991, with agriculture accounting for 33 percent of the total jobs. This is significantly higher than the national average of less than four percent. Government and retail trade are also important economic sectors.

3.5.9.2 Peninsular Range Province

The baseline socioeconomic data for this province involves San Diego County. Its total population was 2.5 million in 1990, exhibiting a 38 percent growth rate throughout the 1980's. The county is heavily populated, with a density of 594 persons per square mile. Approximately 65 percent of the total population is non-Hispanic whites, followed by 21 percent Hispanics and 14 percent other races. Although San Diego is the largest city within the county, there are three others with a population exceeding 100,000.

San Diego County contains 946,799 housing units. The median housing value for the county was $186,700 and for rental rates was $564, both values being significantly higher than Imperial County.

The leading employment and income sectors include services, government, retail trade, and manufacturing. Other sectors important to employment were construction, finance, insurance, and real estate.

3.5.10 Cultural Resources

This discussion is further subdivided into two subsections: the Colorado River Region and the Peninsular Range Region.

3.5.10.1 Colorado River Region

As a rule, the more recent sites in the Colorado River subregion are found near modern water sources, while earlier sites are found at higher elevations along mountain slopes, on old terraces overlooking ancient watercourses, or along extinct river channels (Campbell 1936; Eighmey 1990; Moratto 1984). In the Colorado and southern Mojave Deserts, many sites frequently are found along the formerly fluctuating shoreline of Lake Cahuilla and within the Lower Colorado River Valley. Eighmey (1990) and others have made the important observation that the development and successional patterns of the Salton Basin ecosystem and its prehistoric cultures are intricately tied to the cycles of Lake Cahuilla and the Colorado (Moratto et al. 1978; Byrne 1979). The fluctuations of Lake Cahuilla are important when considering early settlement patterns, as the processes buried many earlier surfaces (Von Werlhof 1980).

The vast majority of prehistoric archeological sites in the Colorado River subregion consist of either surface scatters or as thin subsurface deposits that rarely reveal any discrete temporal separation of occupations. A few stratified sites have been located on terraces of the Lower Colorado River (Schroeder 1961) and within rockshelters situated in the eastern slopes of the Peninsular Ranges (Wallace et al. 1962). Sites in the desert areas usually are composed of one or more loci containing general activity areas, middens, chipping stations, cremations, food processing areas, caches, pottery concentrations, or hearths.

As many as 30 "geoglyphs", also referred to as "intaglios", are also found in flat areas of the desert (Wilcox, personal communication 1992). These features consist of giant, scraped earth drawings, representative of anthropomorphic and zoomorphic figures, as well as other kinds of geometric designs. As in other regions of North America, the function of these sites is unknown; however, it is conceivable that they were used for spiritual purposes. The features can be quite large and some are more than 20 m in length.

Listed NRHD sites for Imperial County include segments of the De Anza Trail, a post office, Desert View Tower, the Yuma Crossing and associated sites, and others. The Mission Puerto de la Purisima Conception established by the Spanish near Yuma later became the site of Fort Yuma in 1851 to protect the southern emigrant trail and to control the warlike Yuma in the area (Frazer 1965). In addition to those sites listed on the National Register, the variety of historic sites that may be

anticipated in the study area are those related to settlement, the mining and ranching industries, and transportation.

3.5.10.2 Peninsular Range Region

The most comprehensive site-locational data for the San Diego subregion were derived by Christenson (1990). Based on a systematic, random sample of 741 sites, Christenson concluded that 42 percent of the sites were located in the foothill zone, 34.5 percent in the mountain zone, and the remaining 23.5 percent along the coastal strip. About 74.4 percent of the 741 sites were located along seasonal streams, 10 percent along permanent streams, and 10 percent near presently active springs. These data are complicated by various differences between past and present water courses where the agents of overgrazing, wildfires, erosion, and drought have brought observable hydrologic changes to the modern landscape (Christenson 1990). Other locational correlations may be similarly complicated by the issues of where the greatest number of cultural resource surveys have been conducted and other sampling biases.

Prehistoric archeological sites of the San Diego subregion have been divided into five functional categories (Christenson 1990): (1) large and small processing sites, (2) large and small habitation sites, (3) lithic scatters, (4) quarry sites, and (5) rock alignments. The majority of prehistoric sites in the San Diego subregion consist of large and small processing sites (Christenson 1990). Small processing sites are the most numerous. These sites appear to have been oriented toward a specific kind of economic activity, such as hunting or the processing of plant foods, but middens are not present.

The next most frequent site type found in the San Diego subregion consists of large and small habitation sites (Christenson 1990). Habitation sites are multi-activity sites that have midden deposits, hearth features, and diverse artifact assemblages, often including ceramics. Human remains (predominantly cremations) are often found on these sites as well. Shell middens along the coastal zones often are associated with habitation sites (Moratto 1984). Habitation sites usually have dense concentrations of artifacts and features spread over a wide area and can include rockshelters, rock enclosures, and/or rock alignments (Christenson 1990).

Lithic scatters are the next most frequent site type found in the San Diego subregion. As a site type, lithic scatters are fairly self evident, consisting of a thin surface veneer of chipped stone debris. These are distinguished from processing sites by an absence of milling-related features. Most lithic scatters probably functioned as loci for refurbishing artifacts and, like processing stations, were not located adjacent to a particular water source. The distance to a water source from a lithic scatter averages 173 m and over 50 percent of these sites were documented on top of small ridges, terraces, and mesas (Christenson 1990).

Quarry sites within the San Diego subregion tend to be quite large with an average size exceeding 2,200 m^2. Quarry sites usually are found at higher elevations and are always situated on or near a lithic outcrop or vein. Commonly they are found along a quartz vein, a dike, or near a particular metavolcanic outcrop. Artifacts associated with quarry sites include a large number of primary flakes, some blanks, and preforms (Christenson 1990).

Rock alignments consisting of rings and linear forms are the other site type found within the San Diego subregion. These sites typically are found in high places such as ridge tops, prominences within valleys, and above drainage heads, and range in size from a meter to more than 150 m in length. Rock alignments in the San Diego subregion occur in granitic areas and, on average, are more than 400 m away from a water source (Christenson 1990). The function of rock alignments remains enigmatic; however, they may have been used for ceremonial purposes, as territorial markers, or as granary foundations for the storage of acorns (Heizer and Elsasser 1980).

Listed NRHP sites within San Diego County include Fort Stockton, or Fort Du Pont (1838), the Presidio of San Diego (1769) and Castillo Guijarros (1795-1838) established to protect San Diego Bay. The Castillo later became Fort Rosecrans (1852) a U.S. military reservation and fortified earthworks (1873) (Frazer 1965). Additional listed sites include hotels and the Gas Lamp Historic District. In addition to those sites listed on the National Register, the variety of historic sites that may be anticipated in the study area are those related to settlement, the mining and ranching industries, and transportation.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This section of the PEIS identifies the impacts, including cumulative, that occur as a result of the activities associated with the JTF-6 program. For clarity, the impacts are discussed by support category (i.e., operational, engineering and general) for each resource which could potentially incur a significant effect; that is, some resources, such as climate, incur insignificant impacts and thus, are not addressed herein. Where practical, the particular type of JTF-6 action, rather than just the support category, associated with the potential impact is discussed. Table 4-1 identifies the number of projects by type that have been performed by JTF-6 since its inception. These figures were used to quantify, where possible, the impacts associated with the JTF-6 mission to date. Since JTF-6 operates at the request of LEAs, JTF-6 cannot accurately determine the number and types of projects to be accomplished in the long term. Consequently, the figures presented in Table 4-1 were also used to estimate the numbers of projects expected during the next five years, as illustrated previously in Figures 1-2 through 1-4.

It should be reemphasized, that this NEPA document addresses the JTF-6 program. Other site-specific or project-specific NEPA documents may be required for future projects.

4.1 SOILS

Soils along the border are typically very sandy and highly erodable. Any construction activity conducted by JTF-6 must evaluate the erosion potential of the project area soils and incorporate erosion control designs to the construction plan. Prime and unique farmlands, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service (SCS), are rare along the border, with the exception of south and southwest Texas. To date, no such lands have been removed from agricultural production by JTF-6 actions; future operations will continue to make all practical attempts to avoid alterations to prime and unique farmlands.

4.1.1 Operational Support Actions

Impacts to soils from operational support activities are associated primarily with vehicular traffic and the placement of permanent LP/OP facilities, ground sensors, and Command Centers during ground patrol or terrain

Table 4-1

Number of JTF-6 Missions Completed by Fiscal Year

	1990	1991	1992	1993
Operational				
LP/OP	5	35	57	67
Sensors	4	12	9	8
Ground patrol		18	35	30
Terrain denial		9	8	11
Aerial reconnaissance/transport		48	86	67
Other/Misc		13	45	79
Total	9	135	240	262
Engineering				
Road construction/upgrade	1	6	7	26
Range construction		4	7	10
Helipad/taxiway		3	6	4
Fence		2	5	4
Building demolition				
Building/facility construction		1	7	5
Engineering Assessments	1	3	11	5
Total	2	19	43	54
General				
Training	5	45	74	66
Intelligence	4	17	37	59
Transport (personnel/equipment)		18	13	8
Photo interpretation	2	33	46	22
Translation			7	8
Canine training/support		7	7	6
Other	10	2		
Total	21	122	184	169

denial exercises. Construction of permanent LP/OP facilities have resulted in less than 300 ft^2 (2 LP/OP sites x 144 ft^2/site) of soil being disturbed excluding the road construction required to access the LP/OP sites. Assuming the same rate of LP/OP facility construction during the next five years, less than one acre of soil would be disturbed. Since LP/OP sites are usually on level areas at the apex of high ground, the erosion potential from the disturbed areas would be negligible; LP/OP sites constructed thus far have experienced insignificant amounts of erosion. Alterations at a LP/OP site are kept to an absolute minimum in order to avoid attracting attention to the site, which would jeopardize the site's effectiveness. Construction of access roads to permanent LP/OP sites has resulted in about 14.5 acres of soil being disturbed.

Placement and removal of ground sensors result in temporary disturbances to soil. Assuming a maximum of 100 sensors would be emplaced per LP/OP site, less than one acre (100 sensors x 164 LP/OP sites x 0.79 ft^2/sensor) of soil has been disturbed by JTF-6 ground sensor operations and less than one additional acre would be expected for similar future actions. These disturbances are temporary; the area would be expected to revegetate within one year after the sensor is removed. These impacts, therefore, would be considered insignificant considering the small area involved and the temporary nature of the effects.

Command Centers established for ground patrol and terrain denial exercises would cause minor effects to soils due to crushing of vegetation (thereby increasing erosion potential), soil compaction and sheering, and soakage (or evaporation) pit construction. The magnitude of these impacts would depend upon several biotic and abiotic variables including time and duration of exercise, soil type and slope, density and health of extant vegetation, number and types of vehicles, and pre- and post-project climatic conditions. Clearing of vegetation for emplacement of tents and other bivouac facilities is prohibited; thus, soil disturbances are kept to a minimum.

To date, 111 such exercises have been conducted and 245 more would be expected over the next five years. These operations have ranged from 50 troops (i.e., personnel) to 600 troops, providing patrol of areas ranging from 400 square miles (mi^2) (256,000 acres) to 1,350 mi^2 (864,000 acres). The largest terrain denial exercise conducted thus far involved 400 troops covering 1,350 mi^2 including several Command Center sites which required the combined use of about 80 acres. Post-project observations of the Command Center and bivouac areas have indicated that there is no visible

evidence of significant adverse impacts to the areas' soils. While troops are in the field on patrol, they typically do not sleep in tents, thereby minimizing disturbances to soil and vegetation.

4.1.2 Engineering Support Services

This support group has the greatest potential to affect soils. Road construction/upgrading activities inherently produce the majority of the soil disturbances within this group. As indicated previously, most of the road work involves repair or upgrading of roads; thus, these areas have been disturbed previously. Approximately 30 miles of new road construction have been completed which equates to about 110 acres of land being altered which, given the 40 million acres within the entire project area, is considered insignificant.

Areas which consist of highly erodable soils are the most susceptible to direct and indirect soil losses. Additional or modified compaction techniques and erosion control measures such as waterbars, gabions, haybales and re-seeding will be required to alleviate these situations.

Road repair activities also have served to reduce soil loss in many areas. Severe erosion is one of the primary reasons that LEAs, considering many roads impassable, request the services of JTF-6. Waterbars, gabions and haybales are used during and after the construction activities to reduce erosion potential.

Fence construction also results in soil disturbances. Approximately 30 miles of fence have been emplaced by JTF-6 since 1989. Assuming a construction ROW of 30 feet, about 110 acres of soil were temporarily disturbed. These areas begin to revegetate within one year after completion of the project. Additionally, most of the fences were installed within or near urban areas and adjacent to land ports of entry where soils typically were disturbed prior to JTF-6 construction operations.

Construction of weapons training facilities will have varying effects on soils depending upon the soil type and previous levels of development within the construction area. Most weapons training facility projects in which JTF-6 has participated have involved modification to existing range facilities. Six completely new weapons training ranges have been constructed by JTF-6, resulting in the disturbance of 81 acres of soil. JTF-6 has participated in portions of construction of two large training complexes in California and Arizona. Although both of these complexes encompassed about 400 and 84 acres,

respectively, the weapons training ranges constructed by JTF-6 required less than 10 acres each. Borrow material for berms and backstops is usually obtained on-site or from nearby extant borrow pits. No new off-site borrow areas have been, or are expected to be, developed by JTF-6 activities.

Other engineering support activities typically produce only minor and/or temporary disturbances to soils. Helipads require less than 0.3 acres each. A total of 11 helipads and two taxiways constructed thus far have resulted in less than 15 acres being disturbed. Most of the helipad sites were located on previously disturbed areas such as road shoulders, abandoned corrals and abandoned borrow areas. The two taxiway projects were located within disturbed areas at existing airport facilities. Light poles, communication towers, water wells, etc. require minimal amounts of land area and, thus, represent negligible adverse effects on the region's soils.

If not properly designed and constructed, some engineering operations such as roads, fences, and gabions could accelerate erosion and produce concomitant and cumulative impacts to wildlife habitat. This is particularly true if frequent maintenance activities are required due to faulty design or construction. Thus, it is imperative that JTF-6 comply with engineering design criteria as specified by the Department of Defense and other appropriate Federal and state agencies. Revegetation with native plants may be required at some project sites to facilitate erosion control and recovery of wildlife habitat.

4.1.3 General Support Services

General support services do not affect soils since they are typically administrative type activities that are performed indoors or do not involve ground disturbing operations.

4.2 WATER RESOURCES

Minimal and short term adverse effects to the water quality of the region's surface water bodies have or may occur due to JTF-6 actions. Groundwater quality could be affected by accidental spills of POL or other hazardous materials. Availability or capacity of the region's surface and ground water supplies would not be significantly affected by any actions, although some additional withdrawal would occur.

4.2.1 Operational Support Services

LP/OP units typically bring their own potable water to the LP/OP site; therefore, no additional demands on surface or groundwater supplies occur. Likewise, no adverse effects on the quality of these surface or groundwater sources would occur.

The demand on water supplies caused by ground patrol and terrain denial exercises would have varying effects on water supply and quality depending upon the number of troops, duration of the exercise, size of the area to be covered by the exercise, capacity of extant supplies, and use of potable water bladders. The largest such exercise involved 600 troops for a 30-day period. Assuming 25 gallons of water per day per troop, a maximum of 450,000 gallons were consumed. During field exercises such as these, however, water consumption is usually estimated to be about eight gallons of water per day per person. For comparison, the City of Las Cruces, New Mexico with a population of about 62,000, has a daily water consumption of approximately eight million gallons per day. Although water supplies are a limited and valuable resource throughout the project area, infrequent and short term withdrawals such as this do not pose a significant cumulative adverse effect. Further, many units will transport their own water supplies to the project site. The potential to affect the quality of these area's water supplies is minimal due to the lack of hazardous materials and ground disturbing activities involved in these exercises. Portable latrines are provided and maintained by licensed contractors for such large exercises. Grease traps, if required, are also properly maintained; used grease is disposed of by contractors.

Other operational support activities will not result in effects on the region's water supplies or quality.

4.2.2 Engineering Support Services

Permanent surface water bodies are limited within the JTF-6 project area. Most drainage systems are intermittent streams or arroyos which flow only during or immediately after heavy rainfall events. To date, the only permanent waterbody that has been directly impacted by JTF-6 engineering actions has been the near shore and intertidal zone of the Pacific Ocean near San Diego and at Lake Amnistad, Texas. Effects to water quality during the beach fence and boat ramp construction were localized and temporary; ambient conditions typically return within one month after completion of these types of construction activities. Consequently, JTF-6 actions would not result in significant adverse cumulative impacts to the quality of the region's surface waterbodies. No water quality problems

have been reported from either of these project sites. Conversely, control of erosion problems along the roads repaired by JTF-6 has indirectly benefitted surface water quality by reducing potential loadings of suspended sediments.

4.2.3 General Support Services

No cumulative significant impact to the region's water quality or supply would be expected to result from JTF-6 general support services.

4.3 AIR QUALITY

Air emissions are produced by certain JTF-6 actions, particularly those associated with vehicles and heavy equipment used for operational and engineering support services. These activities usually occur in remote locations and are considered temporary and mobile sources; therefore, the emissions are not considered significant. Although the proposed JTF-6 projects are expected to conform to the Clean Air Act of 1990, as amended, each construction project and large ground reconnaissance operation will have to consider the region's air quality conditions particularly within non-attainment areas, and make a project specific determination of the potential to conform to the Act. Specific types of activities that would be expected to produce emissions are discussed in the following paragraphs, by support group.

4.3.1 Operational Support

Transportation support services involve trucks, cargo aircraft, and helicopters, all of which inherently produce air emissions. These emissions are dispersed over a wide area and are only temporary. All vehicles and aircraft have properly installed and maintained air emission control equipment. A total of 39 transportation operations have been performed during the past three years. Table 4-2 presents the average annual emissions estimated to have been produced by these operations over this period. The annual rate of emissions by future transportation services would be expected to remain the same as the average presented in Table 4-2 since the number of such services has remained fairly constant. For comparison, a late model year automobile traveling at a rate of 50 miles per hour for eight hours along a highway will produce about 16.7 pounds of carbon monoxide, 0.64 pounds of hydrocarbons, 1.5 pounds of nitrogen oxides, and 0.002 pounds of sulfur oxides.

Table 4-2. Typical Emissions Produced by Transportation Operations per Fiscal Year

	AVERAGE EMISSIONS PER JFT-6 OPERATIONS[1]					TOTAL ESTIMATED EMISSIONS (lbs) PER YEAR[2]				
Source	HC	NO_x	CO	SO_x	PM-10	HC	NO_x	CO	SO_x	PM-10
C-130 Cargo Aircraft	2.46	2.68	8.63	0.54	2.06	0.88	5.36	17.26	1.08	4.12
UH-30 Huey Helicopter	0.75	4.67	6.84	0.54	--	0.74	9.34	13.68	1.08	--
Diesel tractor-trailer	2.50	64.6	436.67	31.1	46.5	4,296	1,033	6,987	498	744

1 Assume aircraft flight time is 1-hr, with take-off and landing fully loaded. Truck haul distance is 200 miles with full consumption of 5 mi/gallons.

2 Assume average of 16 truck trips and four each aircraft missions (two each). No transportation operations conducted during FY 90.

Ground patrol and terrain denial operations also result in emissions of air pollutants, primarily from vehicles and generators used at the TOCs. The magnitude of these emissions would vary depending upon the size of the operation, time of year, size of the generators and their duration and frequency of use and ambient air conditions. Because these operations are sporadic, temporary, remotely located, and require relatively little equipment, impacts to air emissions would be insignificant, both in the short term and cumulatively.

Other operational support activities would produce insignificant, if any, amounts of air emissions.

4.3.2 Engineering Support

Construction activities will produce emissions of air pollutants; the average annual amount of emissions estimated for the construction projects performed for fiscal years 1991 through 1993 are presented in Table 4-3. The majority (63 percent) of these projects involved road and range repair and helipad/taxiway construction which are located in remote areas; consequently, no significant effects to the areas' air quality would be expected. Although San Diego is a non-attainment area, fence construction activities in this area was a short-term situation with pre-project conditions returning within a few days after completion of the fence.

4.3.3 General Support

No JTF-6 actions under the general support service category would be expected to result in adverse impacts or significant cumulative impacts to the region's ambient air quality.

4.4 NOISE

Increases to ambient noise levels are unavoidable with some operational and most engineering support services actions. However, most of these actions are conducted in remote areas away from noise sensitive sites (e.g., schools, churches, hospitals, etc.) and usually have a duration of less than 30 days. Excessively loud instantaneous noises such as sonic booms or ordnance explosions are typically not produced by JTF-6 actions, with the rare exception of building or tunnel demolitions which require explosives. Consequently, only minor and short term impacts to ambient noise levels are expected to occur within any of the three support groups.

Table 4-3. Typical Emissions Produced by Engineering Support Services, FY 1990 through FY 1993

Source	Assumed daily use (hr)	AVERAGE EMISSIONS (lbs) PER JTF- 6 OPERATION					TOTAL ESTIMATED EMISSIONS[1] (lbs) PER YEAR				
		HC	NO_x	CO	SO_x	PM-10	HC	NO_x	CO	SO_x	PM-10
Bulldozers	10	0.121	0.346	1.26	0.137	0.112	2.18	6.23	22.7	2.47	2.02
Trucks	8	3,940	132	102	5.31	6.47	70,920	2,376	1,836	95.6	116.5
HMMV (jeep)	6	37.5	102	469	34.2	33.5	675	1,836	8,442	615.6	603
Generator (30-60 kw)	8-12	95.5	1,571	31.2	2.45	2.77	1,719	28,278	561.6	44.1	49.9

Source: EPA 1992 and JTF-6 1993

[1] Average project duration is 6 days per week for 30-day period; average number of operations utilizing these types of equipment was 18.

Notes: HC - hydrocarbons
NO_x - nitrogen oxides
CO - carbon monoxides
SO_x - sulfur oxides
PM-10 - particulates

Construction and operation of new weapons training ranges will create new noise sources. The magnitude of these impacts will depend upon several variables including ambient noise levels, design of the range, frequency and time of use, types of weapons used, and proximity to noise-sensitive areas.

4.5 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This subsection is further subdivided into three main discussions: vegetation, fish and wildlife, threatened and endangered species.

4.5.1 Vegetation

Vegetation communities, as discussed in Chapter 3 and in each volume of the Environmental Baseline report, are quite diverse along the U.S./Mexico border region, ranging from coastal marshes to semi-desert grasslands and scrub to mountainous forests. Most of the project region is rural and, consequently, provides valuable habitat for numerous and varied wildlife populations. Types and magnitude of impacts to vegetation communities from JTF-6 actions are also varied. Where practicable, JTF-6 attempts to avoid impacts to native vegetation by utilizing existing or previously disturbed areas or by implementing actions with less potential for ground disturbances. Disturbed lands include those which have been graded, paved, plowed, or replanted with non-native vegetation.

4.5.1.1 Operational Support

LP/OP operations typically produce minimal impacts to vegetation communities since these are temporarily-used sites that inherently must appear to be undisturbed. Clearing vegetation for bivouac areas or use of live vegetation for camouflage is prohibited during LP/OP activities. These sites are used by a small team (2-4 troops) for less than one week. Any disturbed vegetation would begin to recover to pre-project conditions within one year after use of the site.

Some LP/OP sites do become permanent sites, as discussed in Chapter 1.0, and require the construction of small (144 ft^2) facilities that are entrenched mostly below ground level. Only two such structures have been built to date which equates to less than 300 ft^2 of vegetation permanently

altered by LP/OP facilities. Roads constructed to allow access to these permanent LP/OP facilities have required the clearing of about 14.5 acres of vegetation.

Ground patrol and terrain denial operations could affect vegetation communities depending upon the size, duration and season of the operation. The primary activity within these types of operations that would impact vegetation would be bivouac activities and off-road vehicle traffic. The actual patrolling and reconnaissance field activities would not result in significant adverse cumulative impacts due to the sporadic and short-term nature of these operations. Trampling and crushing of some vegetation would occur, but all vegetation, including that located within bivouac areas, would be expected to begin recovery of pre-project conditions within one year after cessation of the operation.

The remaining operational support services produce negligible to no effect upon vegetation communities.

4.5.1.2 Engineering Support Services

This support group has the greatest potential for the alteration or destruction of vegetation communities, with the concomitant effects upon wildlife populations. However, most of the road and firing range engineering services involve repair or upgrading activities; thus, the majority of the vegetation communities disturbed by JTF-6 actions have been previously altered. Road construction and repair activities within the project area has resulted in a total of about 1,860 acres (800 miles x 18' ROW) of vegetation, being converted to bare ground. New road construction in undisturbed vegetation communities accounted for less than 10 percent (110 acres) of this total.

Construction of 11 helipads and two taxiways required about 15 acres of semidesert grassland and scrub habitat to be removed. Fence construction has caused about 110 acres of vegetation communities to be removed. In particular, fence construction in the San Diego border area resulted in the destruction of about 12 acres of coastal scrub and chaparral habitats. JTF-6, as described in Section 5, replanted 11.5 acres of coastal scrub community in a more secure and protected area to compensate for these impacts. The construction ROW for these fences, however, is allowed to revegetate naturally. Therefore, the cumulative effect will be much less than the 110 acres altered thus far. It should be noted again, that most of the fence construction services occur within or near

the land ports of entry so that little, if any, valuable wildlife habitat would typically exist in these areas.

Firing range upgrade and construction is the second most ground disturbing service provided by JTF-6. The facilities built thus far under this program have resulted in approximately 450 acres (including about 81 acres for new ranges) of various habitat types being converted to bare ground.

The remaining engineering support activities would produce minor and localized effects on vegetation communities. Additionally, these activities are conducted in previously disturbed areas and/or require only temporary construction areas that naturally revegetate upon completion of the construction activities. Some engineering support activities, such as design services, would obviously produce no impacts upon wildlife habitats.

4.5.1.3 General Support Services

No impacts to vegetation communities would be expected to occur as a result of general support type activities. These activities all occur within buildings, along established public highways, or within existing training facilities, or do not involve ground disturbing activities.

4.5.2 Fish and Wildlife Resources

Aquatic habitats are extremely limited within the project area, except along the Texas Gulf coast, and only two of the projects completed thus far have directly involved a permanent surface waterbody. Portions of the border fence constructed in San Diego affected the nearshore habitats of the Pacific Ocean. However, these were only temporary effects of increased turbidity and sedimentation and other related deleterious conditions which were ameliorated within a few weeks after completion of the construction. The other project involved construction of boat ramps at Lake Amistad. Less than one acre of water bottom was disturbed and the hard substrate provided by the boat ramp is expected to support populations of periphyton and provide structure for nektonic species. Erosion and sedimentation from border roads constructed along the Rio Grande and fence construction near the Tijuana River could cause indirect effects upon fish populations. The magnitude of these effects are not known at present and would depend upon the efficiency of erosion control measures emplaced, time of year, distance from a permanent water body, and current water quality conditions of the water

body. Upgrading of some border roads would have beneficial effects upon fish populations by reducing erosional and sedimentation problems.

Wildlife populations, on the other hand, have incurred some disturbances as well as direct and indirect losses due to JTF-6 actions, as discussed in the following paragraphs.

4.5.2.1 Operational Support Services

LP/OP operations will result in minor and temporary disturbances to wildlife populations, primarily only during the construction of permanent facilities. Operation of a LP/OP site may slightly disrupt wildlife during deployment and redeployment activities only.

Ground patrol and terrain denial exercises could disrupt wildlife populations, particularly if conducted during breeding or nesting season. The majority (75 percent) of these types of exercises have been ground patrol activities which are typically smaller and less intrusive than the terrain denial activities. Only 28 terrain denial operations have been conducted, each of which encompassed an area large enough to produce troop densities of about one military personnel per two to four square miles. Weapons training activities during the terrain denial operations are performed at established firing ranges only. Other operational support activities would not be expected to adversely impact wildlife populations.

4.5.2.2 Engineering Support Services

Engineering support services involving construction would have direct and indirect impacts upon wildlife. Road repair and construction have resulted in the loss or alteration of about 1,860 acres of wildlife habitat, primarily semidesert grasslands and desert scrub communities. Assuming that the majority of this area consists of these communities, the engineering support activities performed by JTF-6 thus far have had consequent reductions in wildlife habitat capable of supporting wildlife populations of as high as 36,000 lizards, 1,260 birds, and 8,370 small mammals, using population densities derived previously (U.S. Army (1985, Wiens, 1991; Petryszyn and Russ 1991; Lowe and Rosen 1992). Table 4-4 quantifies the reduction in habitat potential caused by each major type of engineering project. It should be emphasized that these are maximum number of individuals that could be affected throughout the 40 million acre project area and that these individuals would be representative of numerous and various species. Table 4-5 provides an estimate of similar potential

Table 4-4. Potential Capabilities to Support Wildlife Populations Lost due to Habitat Alterations

	Action (Acres)							
	Roads (1,395 Acres)		Helipads/Taxiways (15 Acres)		Fences (92 Acres)		Ranges (410 Acres)	
Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife [1]	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Lizards	2,790	19,530	30	210	180	1,290	800	5,740
Birds	70	1,260	1	20	5	80	20	370
Small Mammals	380	800	4	10	30	50	110	240
	Roads (465 Acres)		Helipads(0)		Fences (18)		Ranges (40 acres)	
Sonoran Desert Wildlife [2]	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Lizards	36,735		0		1,422		3,160	
Birds	391		0		15		34	
Small Mammals	4,185	8,370	0		162	324	360	720

Source: U.S. Army 1985 and Geo-Marine

[1] Minimum lizard density 2 individuals/acre;
Maximum lizard density 14 individuals/acre;
Minimum bird density 0.05 individuals/acre;
Maximum bird density 0.90 individuals/acre;
Minimum small mammal density 0.27 individuals/acre;
Maximum small mammal density 0.57 individuals/acre

[2] Lizard density 79 individuals/acre
Bird density 0.84 individuals/acre
Minimum mammal density 9 individuals/acre
Maximum mammal density 18 individuals/acre

Table 4-5. Potential Wildlife Losses (total individuals)
Due to Habitat Alterations Over Next Five Years

	Action (Acres)			
Wildlife[1]	Roads (3272)	Helipads (28)	Fences (240 acres)	Training Facilities (262)
Lizards (33/acre)	107,976	924	7,920	8,646
Birds (0.60/acres)	1,963	17	144	157
Small mammals (7/acre)	22,904	196	1,680	1,834

[1] Using average densities of Sonoran and Chihuahuan Desert populations, as presented in Table 4-5.

losses for future JTF-6 projects. As discussed previously, however, the majority of the construction activities involve repair or upgrade services within previously disturbed areas; therefore, the impacts presented in both of these tables would be expected to be much less.

Additional direct losses to burrowing or less mobile species would occur as a result of crushing by construction equipment. Reptiles and amphibians would incur the most losses in this manner. Birds and mammals are more motile and would be expected to avoid the area during the construction activities, the duration of which is typically less than 45 days.

Some bird mortalities could be caused during migration if birds collide with anchor cables tied to communication towers. The magnitude of these effects will depend upon the location of the tower, design (including height) of the tower, and migratory pattern of birds in the area. Since most communication towers are built adjacent to extant LEA developments, these potential effects will be ameliorated. Powerlines are not associated with these communication towers and single phase lines are used to provide electricity for lighting projects constructed by JTF-6. Thus, there is no potential of electrocution of large birds such as raptors.

4.5.2.3 General Support Services

General support activities performed by JTF-6 for LEAs would not be expected to have a significant impact upon wildlife. Aircraft mishaps, if they occur, would have minor, localized impacts which would be expected to diminish within one year after the incident.

4.5.3 Threatened or Endangered Species

Although JTF-6 and its assisting military units strive to avoid impacts to Federal and state protected species, some operations have resulted in adverse effects to individual specimens of threatened and endangered species. However, beneficial effects on protected species also have occurred as a result of JTF-6 actions through habitat protection and enhancement as well as expanding the knowledge of species distribution and habitat suitability. Future JTF-6 actions will be coordinated with the FWS to address potential impacts to plans for reintroduction of protected species. At present, no such plans are finalized, although several are in the preliminary stages.

4.5.3.1 Operational Support

Permanent LP/OP sites and their access roads are surveyed for protected species during the planning stages to ensure avoidance of these valuable resources. Similarly, bivouac and TOC sites, if used for ground patrol and terrain denial operations, are also surveyed by professional biologists for protected species. Data obtained from these surveys concerning locations of protected species are forwarded to the appropriate state resource agency as well as the regional office of the FWS, where required.

These surveys and selection of alternative routes and locations have allowed operational support activities to be conducted without any adverse impacts to threatened or endangered species. The data provided to the state and Federal resource agencies may be useful in developing long term management plans for the recovery of the species.

Other operational support services would not be expected to affect protected species or their habitats.

4.5.3.2 Engineering Support Services

As mentioned above, professional biologists are utilized by JTF-6 to survey proposed and alternate routes and locations in order to locate and avoid areas which support protected species. Although only about 10 feet of vegetation on either side of an existing road is disturbed by repair/upgrading activities, the biologists are required to survey an entire ROW of 50-100 feet to ensure identification of all protected species and/or their suitable habitat within the potential area of effect. Whenever such areas are located, the biologists flag the area to ensure that construction units avoid the sites. Flagging is removed upon completion of the construction to eliminate the potential of attracting attention to the area. Additionally, professional biologists may provide monitoring on some activities during the construction phase, particularly for road, range and fence projects, to further reduce the potential of accidental impacts on protected species. The use of monitors is especially useful in avoiding impacts to protected animal species which may occur outside the ROW but have the potential to traverse the area during construction. No such occurrences have been reported as yet and due to the relative short duration of construction (conducted during daylight hours only) and the narrow, linear feature of most construction project areas, no significant indirect impacts would be expected outside the construction rights-of-way.

Some accidental damage has occurred, however. One specimen of Tumamoc globeberry (*Tumamoca macdougalii*) was inadvertently uprooted during road repair activities within the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation, Arizona. The specimen was replanted and covered with brush to protect it from free ranging livestock, as recommended by the USFWS. This species was delisted within a few months after the incident.

During road repair activities near Marathon, Texas, seven specimens of two cacti species were destroyed. Two bunched cory cacti (*Coryphantha ramillosa*) and five Lloyd's mariposa cacti (*Neolloydia mariposensis*) were damaged or destroyed during this operation. The FWS was contacted immediately and formal Section 7 consultation was initiated on 18 January 1994. A Biological Opinion indicating that these damages would not jeopardize the continued existence of either species was issued by the FWS on 20 July 1994. Surveys for this project identified two previously unknown site locations of the bunched cory cactus and 32 new site locations for the Lloyd's mariposa cactus.

New road construction into or through areas that were previously not accessible to the general public could invite or encourage poaching of rare plants and animals. Road upgrading could also encourage trespassing where public roads traverse private lands. The magnitude of this impact will depend upon the proximity of the road to urbanized areas, and efficiency of law enforcement activities. In this regard, road upgrading/construction operations are intended to enhance patrol activities and, thus, should facilitate reductions in poaching and trespassing.

As discussed in Section 4.5.1.2, about 12 acres of coastal scrub community, which provides habitat for the California gnatcatcher (*Prolioptila californica*), were removed during the construction of a border fence near San Diego. However, 11.5 acres were replanted with coastal scrub species to offset these impacts. This mitigation plan was coordinated with and approved by the FWS. The portion of this fence which was constructed on the Pacific Ocean beach provides protection to the California least tern (*Sterna antillaform browni*) nesting area, a major benefit to this endangered species.

Other engineering support operations, such as building rehabilitation or demolition, engineering design and assessment, or well drilling would not be expected to result in adverse impacts to protected species.

4.5.3.3 General Support Services

No effects upon protected species would occur as result of general support service activities.

4.6 SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES

Potential impacts to socioeconomic resources from the actions of JTF-6 are due to both construction activities and project impacts. Construction impacts are temporary in nature, while project impacts are expected to continue for the economic life of the project. Discussion of impacts will include population, employment, income and sales, housing and miscellaneous impacts.

The diversity of projects associated with JTF-6 implies that socioeconomic impacts will vary considerably. Some projects have very small construction and project impacts while others are more substantial in terms of construction costs and impacts and project magnitude. Overall, construction projects have temporary positive but insignificant socioeconomic benefits (increases in sales, employment, and income). All actions provide socioeconomic benefits from increased detection, deterrence, and interdiction of illegal drug smuggling activities with concomitant benefits of reduced enforcement costs, losses to personal properties, violent crimes, and entitlement programs. These actions also can have direct positive benefits from increased economic activity. In addition, though not a purpose of the program, JTF-6 activities improve the capability of LEAs to police immigration activities and thereby provide socioeconomic side-benefits from reduced illegal immigration.

Positive impacts on socioeconomic resources will be greatest from Alternative 1 because of temporary localized benefits from construction activities (associated with engineering support services) and long term local and nationwide benefits from the law enforcement assistance provided by these items. Alternative 2 will have direct, but lower, positive local impacts from operations and support related expenditures and long term local and nationwide benefits from reductions in illegal drug smuggling, though these impacts will be smaller than from Alternative 1.

The No Action Alternative will have negative impacts on socioeconomic resources. These impacts occur due to the continuation and possible increase of illegal drug smuggling and associated sales and use.

The direct impact of JTF-6 actions on drug smuggling activities and, indirectly, on illegal immigration is difficult to measure. The difficulty in measuring the success of the program is due to two factors. The first is the short time frame under which JTF-6 has been conducted, while many of the impacts would occur over an extended period of time. For example, improved training facilities gradually improve the efficiency and abilities of law enforcement officers. The full effect of such improvements will only be felt as better trained officers more effectively interdict illegal smuggling. Secondly, the success of such programs is inherently difficult to measure. While estimates may be available for the amount of drugs confiscated, knowing how much went undetected is much more difficult. Similar difficulties are encountered in measuring impacts on illegal immigration.

4.6.1 Costs of Smuggling

While JTF-6 actions clearly improve the capabilities of LEAs and thereby reduce illegal drug smuggling and coincidentally illegal immigration, it is not possible at this point to estimate the levels of these impacts. Some evidence of success is available and is noted below. Estimates of the total socioeconomic costs of illegal drug smuggling and illegal immigration can provide an indication of the general importance of reductions in these activities. The following sections provide information on the estimated costs of these activities.

4.6.1.1 Illegal Drugs

Costs associated with illegal drug smuggling and use can be classified into quantifiable and non-quantifiable categories. Quantifiable costs range from the costs of incarcerating traffickers and distributors to the lost productivity and treatment of drug abusers. In contrast, the cost of abuse or neglect by an addicted family member or the fear and anguish of being a victim of a drug related crime is difficult to quantify.

Costs and consequences associated with illicit drug use begin when the illegal substance enters the United States. It is estimated that for every pound of narcotics seized, several pounds are successfully smuggled across the U.S. border (U.S. Border Patrol 1991). There are significant costs associated with the incarceration of individuals who are apprehended, both dealers and users. Those persons not apprehended impose costs on society through criminal activity and loss in productivity. Regular drug users lead more unstable lives and often receive half of the cash needed to support the habit through criminal activity or conning family and friends (Johnson 1985).

Lost productivity on the job due to drug abuse includes a reduction in performance of approximately 25 percent, increased absences and tardiness, and utilizing double the sick allowance. These employees are also more inclined to steal an employer's property (Banta 1989). A recent study estimated the cost of reduced productivity due to drug use to be in excess of $99 billion annually (Scanlon 1991).

An additional cost is that of treatment, support, and drug use discouragement. In recent years, there have been many government and private programs established to treat drug abusers and assist them in leading productive lives. The annual amount spent on treatment is estimated to be $17 billion (Scanlon 1991).

Table 4-6 represents an estimate of the costs to individuals, society and government as a result of illicit drug use. Because there are numerous factors to consider when estimating these costs, estimates of these costs vary. All research agrees that these costs are significant and are eventually passed on to consumers through higher prices, taxes, and health care costs. In order to put society's expense in perspective, it would cost each working person in the United States $843 per year to cover the annual expense (U.S. Department of Labor 1989).

Table 4-6

Estimate of the Costs to Individuals, Society and Government Resulting from Illicit Drug Use

Component	Costs of Drug Abuse ($ in millions)
Treatment	$1,443
Mortality	1,980
Morbidity	
Reduced Productivity	
Lost Employment	26,028
Crime	5,910
Social Welfare	539
Incarceration	1,466
Crime Careers	8,725
Other	845
TOTAL	$46,936

Source: Zimring and Hawkins 1992.

4.6.1.2 Illegal Immigration

The activities of JTF-6 also have a secondary benefit by reducing and discouraging illegal immigration into the United States, which has positive impacts on society. Border Patrol officers are responsible for apprehending and preventing illegal entrants. It is not known how many illegal immigrants enter the United States; however, it is estimated that less than 10 attempts are necessary to successfully cross the border. This means that an individual will probably succeed in entering the United States if he attempts to cross the border more than once. Although an increasing number of illegal immigrants are women and children seeking a better quality of life, most illegal immigrants are young males who come to the United States seeking employment.

Some studies (McCarthy and Valdez 1985; Rivera-Batiz, et al. 1991) have reported that the economic effects of illegal aliens include effects on welfare and other entitlement programs, the labor market and education. The types of jobs usually obtained by young illegal immigrants are low-skilled jobs which pay at or below minimum wage. In many industries, such as meat packing, janitorial services,

agriculture and construction, American workers have been displaced by the undocumented workers who are willing to work for less pay and benefits. This situation is perpetuated by the constant supply of undocumented workers. As the immigrants' expectations of working conditions rise to the level of the American workers, they are replaced by new immigrants. This has resulted in depressed wage rates, as much as 12 percent below the national average, for low-skilled workers in the areas of the nation where illegal aliens are prevalent. The main sectors of the labor force affected by these conditions are U.S.-born Hispanics and African-American.

Although it is not legal for undocumented persons to participate in public assistance programs, their U.S.-born children are eligible. Thus, many illegal aliens are receiving benefits from Federal, state, and local government entitlement programs. Several authors (James 1991; McCarthy and Valdez 1985) have indicated that the largest expense is public education, with a cost to American taxpayers of approximately $2.7 to $3.4 billion with bilingual and nutrition programs adding to the total. Undocumented persons who are pregnant, disabled, or require emergency care are eligible to use Medicaid. In addition, undocumented persons are allowed to utilize Medi-Cal, the California medical welfare program. Heer (1990) reported that the annual cost to Los Angeles County for the unreimbursed medical care of undocumented persons in 1982 was $76.5 million.

Because it is not known how many undocumented persons are living in the United States, it is difficult to estimate how many utilize entitlement programs and the resulting costs. Table 4-7 shows the results of a survey published by California's Health and Welfare Agency on reported public assistance use by illegal aliens. These data indicate that access to entitlement programs by illegal immigrants is significant and represents substantial costs to government agencies and taxpayers.

Table 4-7

Reported Public Assistance Use by Illegal Aliens

Program	Percent Using
Unemployment Insurance	14.9
Workman's Compensation	6.7
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	32.7
State General Assistance	4.3
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	1.9
Welfare	4.4
Food Stamps	9.5

Source: James 1991.

4.6.2 Population

4.6.2.1 Operational and General Support Services

Many operational and general support services of JTF-6 require the location of military personnel at sites. The personnel are usually within small teams, are temporary and stay in base camps. The actions do not require deployment of permanent personnel and do not directly impact local population.

4.6.2.2 Engineering Support Services

JTF-6 construction projects comprise the majority of Engineering Support Services and include rehabilitation, upgrading and new construction. Examples of projects include road and bridge construction, range and shooting house construction, helipads, communication towers, fence repair and construction and various types of demolition. The activities are generally short term and are performed by military personnel. The construction activities themselves have no direct impacts on population.

4.6.3 Employment, Income and Sales.

The primary purpose of JTF-6 actions is to help law enforcement efforts to interdict the flow of illegal drugs into the U.S. Socioeconomic impacts from these actions would occur due to direct operations and support expenditures; and reduced flows of drugs. In addition, the coincident

reduction of illegal aliens has long term impacts both locally and nationally. The first type of impact is usually positive but minor and insignificant while the latter has more long term and far-reaching impacts.

JTF-6 projects have generally positive direct impacts on the economic parameters of employment, income and sales. Direct government expenditures for construction and operations and support have localized positive impacts on economic parameters and are subject to economic multiplier effects. The completion and operation of JTF-6 engineering support services and operational and general support services provide more substantial long term economic benefits to the local areas and the Nation.

4.6.3.1 Operational and General Support

Direct expenditures from JTF-6 operational and general support actions have direct benefits within the area of the actions. Since the personnel are brought in on a short term basis and some materials and supplies are brought into the local areas, the expenditures occurring within the local areas are typically relatively small. The expenditures that do occur within the local areas are subject to economic multiplier effects.

The direct impacts from locally hired labor and locally purchased materials will have indirect and induced multiplier impacts that can be estimated using economic multiplier models such as the Economic Impact Forecast System (EIFS) developed by researchers at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) and maintained through the Planning Information Program (PIP) at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Illinois, Urbana. EIFS provides a methodologically sound analytical method for assessing the magnitude and significance of potential socioeconomic impacts of proposed activities on economic areas as small as the county level. The model generates regional multipliers used for estimating total (direct, indirect and induced) impacts on regional economic output, employment, and earnings.

Environmental assessments conducted for various JTF-6 actions using the EIFS model have shown that the economic multipliers within the border region are typically between 1.5 and 2.5. The multiplier indicates the total impact of an action or project as estimated from the direct expenditures.

For example, if the direct local expenditures of an action are $1,000,000 and the multiplier for the area of impact is 2.0, then the total impact on sales within the affected area would be $2,000,000. Areas with large populations and diverse economies, such as El Paso, Texas, and San Diego, California, have high multipliers. Rural areas with small population densities and narrow economic bases have small multipliers since needed labor and materials must be imported to the area. Table 4-8 presents example multipliers and regional impacts from a $1 million construction project for counties within the border region (EIFS 1994). The rural county of Hidalgo, New Mexico has a multiplier of only 1.32 while San Diego County has a multiplier of 3.07.

The types of operational and general support actions conducted for past JTF-6 operations and those foreseen for future actions tend to increase short term employment, income and sales within local areas due to direct expenditures but at levels that are insignificant.

Impacts from interdiction of illegal drugs and illegal aliens result in positive impacts on economic parameters within local areas and nationwide. These benefits, while positive in nature, have not been estimated accurately since little evidence yet exists to measure the success of these programs. The levels of economic costs due to drug smuggling and abuse (estimated in Section 4.5.1.1 to be $47 billion annually) and illegal immigration (costs in the billions annually) indicate that even small reductions in these illegal activities would have substantial long term benefits to the local and national economy.

4.6.3.2 Engineering Support Services

JTF-6 construction projects vary in size from small fence repair and rehabilitation to larger scale projects such as firing range construction and road repair and construction. The direct economic impacts from construction (i.e., the expenditures related to construction) will be temporary and locally positive but insignificant in most cases. Economic impacts from reduced flows of drugs, and a secondary reduction in illegal aliens, have long term positive impacts both locally and nationally. The first type of impact is usually locally positive, but minor and insignificant, while the latter has important long term impacts.

Table 4-8. Economic Multipliers for Selected Counties

County, State	Major City	Impact of $1,000,00 Construction Project			
		Multiplier	Sales ($)	Income ($)	Employment
Cameron, TX	Harlingen	2.35	$1,148,000	$379,000	22
Starr, TX		1.49	418,000	163,000	18
Webb, TX	Laredo	2.03	879,000	291,000	17
Val Verde, TX	Del Rio	1.70	594,000	245,000	16
El Paso, TX	El Paso	2.59	1,358,000	434,000	23
Hidalgo, NM		1.32	273,000	134,000	9
Dona Ana, NM	Las Cruces	1.88	747,000	303,000	17
Yuma, AZ		1.77	653,000	261,000	13
Pima, AZ	Tucson	2.77	1,513,000	542,000	28
Imperial, CA		1.68	577,000	221,000	10
San Diego, CA	San Diego	3.07	1,765,000	596,000	25

Source: Economic Impact Forecast System, 1994.

The main direct short term local economic impacts will be from purchases of supplies from local communities required for construction. Purchases include construction materials, vehicle and equipment rental, food and housing and general field supplies.

Labor impacts from most engineering support services construction projects are minor and indirect. The projects are performed by military personnel brought in specifically for the project. Direct hiring of local labor is minimal in most cases. Indirect hiring (e.g., to firms supplying materials to the project team) will constitute the main local employment impacts.

The direct impacts from locally hired labor and locally purchased materials will have indirect and induced multiplier impacts that can be estimated using economic multiplier models like those described in Section 4.5.2.1. The types of construction projects conducted for past JTF-6 operations and those foreseen for future actions tend to increase short term employment, income and sales but at levels that are insignificant with exceptions in some local areas where the economic benefit may be considered significant.

Once constructed and in place, engineering support services projects have been shown to improve the abilities of LEAs to fight drug smuggling and illegal entries and reduce costs of law enforcement efforts. For example, fence construction in the San Diego area has contributed to increased drug seizures because fencing forces smugglers to enter at more easily controlled areas of the border. In addition it has been shown to reduce violent crimes against aliens and Border Patrol Agents by border bandits. Road construction has enabled Border Patrol officers to patrol more easily in those areas (INS 1994). While overall evidence of project effectiveness is as yet unavailable, even small reductions in illegal smuggling activities have substantial long term benefits to the local and national economy.

Lastly, engineering support services projects are completed at substantially lower labor costs due to the use of troop labor instead of civilian contractors. The savings from fiscal year 1990 through fiscal year 1994 to date have totaled $55 million (JTF-6 1994b). In addition, since the projects conducted under JTF-6 replace training missions that would be required anyway, the cost savings, including material purchases, are actually larger.

4.6.4 Housing

JTF-6 actions have insignificant impacts on housing resources due to the short-term nature of the projects, and the fact that JTF-6 units utilize established installations or bivouac areas.

4.6.5 Miscellaneous Socioeconomic Impacts

The primary focus of JTF-6 actions is on interdiction. JTF-6 actions are designed to make law enforcement more effective in its efforts. Increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement activities has positive impacts on the cost of providing such services. JTF-6 actions that increase the cost-effectiveness of law enforcement efforts include fence construction and rehabilitation, lighting, road construction and law officer training.

Fencing projects can improve deterrence and reduce the costs of the overall interdiction effort. In addition, fencing projects have been found to reduce theft, damage, sabotage and maintenance of equipment at Border Patrol Stations. Lighting projects have similar impacts. Road construction projects allow Border Patrol and other LEAs to patrol large regions more efficiently than under present circumstances. Law officer training and construction of training facilities improve the efficiency of enforcement by providing a better interdiction workforce and by reducing the effort required to enforce Federal, state and local laws.

Visual resources may have been impacted (adversely or beneficially) by certain engineering operations, particularly fences and straight-line roads. Future JTF-6 projects that are situated in relatively pristine areas and especially those that impact BLM or NPS lands will have to address visual resource effects. All of the BLM lands have been grouped into five different visual resource management categories which will require consideration. Visual resource features evaluated by BLM include landforms and water, key observation points, vegetation, and types of structures to be built.

4.7 CULTURAL RESOURCES

The potential is good for the presence of NRHP-eligible prehistoric and historic sites within the project area of proposed JTF-6 actions, given the numerous sites already known along the U.S./Mexico border. However, as demonstrated by completed JTF-6 actions, mitigation through

avoidance has been practiced for all NRHP-eligible or listed historic properties. Therefore, there have been only limited impacts to a small number of sites within the project area of JTF-6 actions.

4.7.1 Operational Support

LP/OP operations typically produce minimal impacts to historic properties since these are temporarily-used sites that must appear to be undisturbed. Clearing of the area for bivouac areas is prohibited during LP/OP activities. These sites are used by a small team (2-4 military personnel) for less than one week. Two LP/OP sites were established as permanent sites, as discussed previously, and required the construction of small (300 ft^2) facilities that are entrenched mostly below ground level. Roads constructed to allow access to these permanent LP/OP facilities have had no effect upon cultural resources.

Ground patrol and terrain denial operations are not likely to affect historic properties if bivouac areas are maintained away from historic sites which have foundations and other features. The actual patrolling and reconnaissance field activities would not result in significant adverse cumulative impacts due to the sporadic and short-term nature of these operations.

4.7.2 Engineering Support Services

JTF-6 actions along the Texas Gulf Coast and in California have avoided all NRHP-eligible properties through redesign of the project footprint, so that the properties are outside the area of improvements or future maintenance activities. As long as future maintenance activities are restricted to the areas already impacted, the cumulative effects will be negligible. Future proposed actions will follow a similar approach in which adverse impacts will be precluded through the avoidance of NRHP-eligible properties. If avoidance is not possible, the proposed action will be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) through the Section 106 review process.

Within the Texas land border, New Mexico, and Arizona regions, avoidance of these NRHP-eligible properties has been accomplished through rerouting and the cessation of road improvement activities within site boundaries. Therefore, there have been only limited impacts to a few sites within the project area of JTF-6 actions. However, one NRHP site and four NRHP-eligible sites were damaged during two road construction operations in southern New Mexico. Damage assessments and some mitigative collection and testing was provided as mitigation/compensation efforts.

Future proposed actions will follow a similar strategy of avoidance of NRHP-eligible properties so that the actions will result in no adverse impacts to historic properties. If avoidance in these regions is not possible, the proposed action will be coordinated with the SHPO through the Section 106 review process. The requesting LEA will be responsible for any mitigation required for the initial performance of the project as well as that required for associated maintenance activities.

The practice of mitigation of adverse effects through the cessation of construction activities within site boundaries, however, has not removed the historic properties from potential cumulative effects. The resulting increase in traffic and subsequent erosion will likely result in long-term adverse effects to historic properties. Professional archaeologists could be used to monitor future maintenance efforts to ensure that maintenance activities would not impact previously-avoided historic properties. Use of such monitors also would permit assessments of the impact of border traffic and subsequent erosion. This approach and other mitigative measures are discussed in Section 5 and are considered necessary to ensure that cumulative effects will be negligible.

Firing range upgrade and construction is the second most ground disturbing service provided by JTF-6. The facilities built thus far under this program have resulted in approximately 450 acres being disturbed. The majority of this impact has occurred in the west Texas region where site avoidance has resulted in no impact to cultural resources.

In addition to enhancing the knowledge of cultural resources in the southwest due to data gleaned from JTF-6 field surveys, JTF-6 has also provided direct benefits from its operational support. LP/OP units have observed and reported illegal collecting of artifacts, which have led to several arrests.

4.7.3 General Support Services

No impacts to historic properties would be expected to occur as a result of general support type activities since ground disturbing activities are typically not associated with this support group.

4.8 SUMMARY OF CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

4.8.1. Operational Support Services

LP/OP activities have not had a significant adverse impact on the natural resources of the project area. Only two permanent LP/OP sites have been established which required the clearing of less than 300 ft^2. Construction of access roads to these sites required about 15 acres of vegetation to be cleared. No more than 11 additional LP/OP permanent sites would be expected during the next five years. Assuming the same amount of land would be required for access roads to these sites, an additional 150 acres would be cleared. Biological and cultural resource surveys would be required prior to the construction of each facility to ensure avoidance of environmentally sensitive areas.

Terrain denial and ground patrol activities have resulted in only minor and temporary impacts to wildlife habitats. Significant cumulative impacts would be expected to result from these operations if: (1) the exercises are conducted within the same areas on a routine and frequent basis or (2) the bivouac areas and TOC sites are not placed within previously disturbed sites and are not surveyed for environmentally sensitive resources. Neither of these scenarios have occurred during the terrain denial or ground patrol operations conducted thus far.

Deployment and redeployment of ground sensors would not have a cumulative impact on the natural or human environment.

Operational support services have cumulative positive impacts on socioeconomic resources within the border area and the nation through reductions in illegal drug smuggling activities. In addition, by strengthening the ability of LEAs to perform their law enforcement duties, these actions have cumulative positive socioeconomic impacts through reductions in illegal immigration. The levels of these benefits are, at this point, unquantifiable. The local expenditures on operational support services also have positive but insignificant cumulative impacts on local economies.

No impacts to NRHP-eligible cultural resources sites have occurred from JTF-6 operational support services.

4.8.2 Engineering Support Services

A total of about 2,400 acres of vegetation, mostly semidesert grassland and desert scrub communities, have been removed by JTF-6 road, range, fence and helipad repair and construction activities. This represents less than 0.01 percent of the total land area within the project area. Wildlife populations have been directly and indirectly affected by these activities, primarily through the reductions in habitat acreage. During the next five years, an additional 3,000 acres would be expected to be cleared for similar facilities.

Soil losses will be minimized through the implementation of erosion control measures including waterbars, gabions, reseeding, compaction and slope control. Although the amount of soils saved is not quantifiable, JTF-6 operations have reduced extant erosion problems in numerous locations.

Air emissions have been produced by vehicles, aircraft and heavy equipment; however, these are not expected to result in significant cumulative impacts due to the short duration of the construction activities, the dispersion capabilities of the region, and the remote locations of most of the construction operations.

Engineering support services have cumulative positive impacts on socioeconomic resources within the border area and the nation through reductions in illegal drug smuggling activities and, secondarily, through reductions in illegal immigration. The levels of these benefits are, at this point, unquantifiable. The local expenditures on engineering support services also have positive, but mostly insignificant, cumulative impacts on local economies. Limited impacts to NRHP-eligible cultural resources sites have occurred from JTF-6 engineering support services.

4.8.3 General Support Activities

No significant adverse cumulative impact has resulted from the implementation of JTF-6 general support actions. These actions have enhanced the LEAs' efficacy for the detection, deterrent, and apprehension of illegal drug smuggling activities and, secondarily, illegal aliens. Consequently the general public, particularly within the region, has incurred real and intangible benefits from these actions.

General support services have cumulative positive, though unquantifiable, impacts on socioeconomic resources similar to those for operational support and engineering support services. The local expenditures on general support services also have positive but insignificant cumulative impacts on local economies.

General support services have not, nor would be expected to, produce adverse impacts to NRHP or NRHP-eligible sites.

5.0 MITIGATION

5.0 MITIGATION

This section describes those measures which could be implemented to reduce or eliminate potential adverse impacts to the human and natural environment. Many of these measures have been incorporated as standard operating procedures for JTF-6 based on experience on previous actions. The mitigation measures are presented by support service group and for each resource area potentially affected. It should be emphasized that these are general mitigation measures; development of specific mitigation measures would be required for each future action that has the potential to result in significant impacts to local resources. These measures will be developed during the conduct and preparation of individual, project-specific NEPA documents that will be tiered to this PEIS.

A major effort that is ongoing as a result of JTF-6 actions is the development of an extensive multi-state Geographic Information System (GIS). The Fort Worth District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (FWCOE) has been working for over three years on the creation of the GIS for the U.S./Mexico border region. The intent of the GIS effort is to provide support, in the form of maps and statistical reports, to persons involved in the counter-drug mission of JTF-6 and other LEAs. It should be noted that this work effort was never intended as an academic study, but rather to provide a deliverable product to support the overall JTF-6 engineering mission. It is the intent of this effort that maps produced from this GIS be used as aids in the decision-making process, and not as final representations of the potential impact areas for a given action. It is also important to note that this is a dynamic product, meaning the data layers included in the system are in a constant state of refinement and development. Data contained in the GIS allows JTF-6 planners to avoid known areas that support or encompass environmentally sensitive resources and alerts the planners of potential conflicts. JTF-6 planners, in turn, contact the appropriate resource agency(s) for further coordination.

This GIS effort is being performed in cooperation and conjunction with several other academic, state and Federal agencies. Communication between these various organizations was initiated, and will continue, in an effort to avoid duplication of digital databases and to create a cooperative working relationship between the various parties. Where possible, additional coordination with local and county planning groups will be sought to identify and develop data layers concerning infrastructure

(e.g., pipelines, sewer lines, etc.) and planned developments (housing, schools, etc.). In addition, the FWCOE has initiated efforts to incorporate to the GIS locations and aerial extent of projects that have been completed by JTF-6. These efforts will allow documentation and evaluation of actual and potential cumulative impacts within a given region. Access to the GIS is available, as appropriate, to other Federal and state resource agencies.

For future JTF-6 projects which require an EA or EIS, JTF-6 will encourage the requesting LEA to serve as a co-lead or, at least, a cooperating agency for the NEPA documentation. This will ensure that the LEA is knowledgeable about the mitigation measures to be implemented for each specific project and for future maintenance activities.

After action reviews will be performed at the request of the land administrator or LEA. Significant problems identified during this review will be reported to the appropriate agencies and corrective actions will be implemented immediately. Measures to be implemented during subsequent operations, to avoid such problems, will be identified. Reports documenting these revisions will be forwarded to the appropriate Federal and state agencies for their information, if requested.

5.1 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

5.1.1 Soils

Vehicular traffic associated with ground patrol and terrain denial activities should remain on established roads to the maximum extent practicable. Wheeled vehicles only will be used during these types of exercises. Bivouac and TOC sites should be located within areas that have been previously disturbed to avoid additional soil disturbances. Installation of soakage or evaporation pits and field latrines will be kept to a minimum for each bivouac site.

5.1.2 Air Quality

Proper and routine maintenance of all vehicles, generators, aircraft and other equipment will be implemented to ensure that air emissions are within the design standards of the piece of equipment. Operation of field equipment such as generators will be kept to the minimum required to maintain the TOC or bivouac facilities. Where practicable, drop lines from local electrical systems will be used as a substitute for generators.

5.1.3 Water Resources

Field latrines and soakage pits will be used only when necessary and will be installed in strict accordance with DOD Technical Manuals and local regulations. Bivouac, TOC and POL storage sites will be located at least 0.25 miles from wildlife and livestock tanks or other permanent surface water bodies. Riparian areas will also be considered off-limits to such activities. Conservation measures will be implemented to preclude unnecessary waste of water supplies.

5.1.4 Biological Resources

LP/OP units will not utilize live vegetation for camouflage. Vegetation will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable during installation of ground sensors used in conjunction with LP/OP sites. Clearing of vegetation at bivouac or TOC sites, if necessary, will be accomplished by hand; disturbed sites will be utilized to the maximum extent practicable for these activities. Open fires and pyrotechnics are prohibited during operational support activities, except within established military training or public firing ranges. If ground patrol or terrain denial operations are scheduled to be repeated in the same vicinity within two years, the TOC will not utilize the same area to allow trampled vegetation and soil to recover. Cross country, off-road vehicular traffic will be prohibited except for egress and ingress to bivouac or TOC sites that cannot be located within previously disturbed areas.

Weapons training will be conducted only within established firing ranges to preclude adverse impacts to wildlife. Chasing, shooting, catching and other forms of harassment of wildlife is prohibited. Restrictive off-road traffic will also ameliorate impacts to nesting or less motile species.

All areas which are known to support threatened or endangered species will be considered off limits to avoid impacts to these resources. Professional biologists, in coordination with the appropriate resource agency(s), will determine the applicable zone of off-limits.

5.1.5 Cultural Resources

Potential adverse impacts to historic properties have been mitigated through a policy of site avoidance. The continuation of a program of archeological survey and monitoring for JTF-6 activities with the potential for ground disturbances will ensure that historic properties are avoided.

5.2 ENGINEERING SUPPORT SERVICES

5.2.1 Soils

Previously disturbed routes and or locations will be utilized to the maximum extent practicable to reduce the potential of soil losses. Areas with highly erodible soils will be given special consideration when designing the proposed facility to ensure incorporation of various compaction techniques, aggregate materials, wetting compounds, and revegetation to ameliorate the potential of soil erosion. Erosion control measures such as waterbars, gabions, haybales, and reseeding will be implemented during and after the construction activities. Borrow materials, if required, will be obtained from established borrow pits or from approved on-site sources. Approval of new borrow pits will be requested from the appropriate Federal (e.g., BLM, BOR, etc.) and state agencies on a project-by-project basis.

5.2.2. Air Quality

In addition to those measures described in Section 5.1.2, above, construction activities within non-attainment areas will be coordinated with the appropriate environmental agency(s) to ensure that the emissions will conform with regulations specified in the Clean Air Act. Construction sites within urban areas or along major transportation routes also will be kept wet, to the extent practicable, to reduce fugitive dust problems.

5.2.3 Water Resources

The same measures described above (Section 5.1.3) for operational support services will be implemented for engineering support activities. In addition, each participating unit will be required to submit a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Plan (SPCCP) to JTF-6 prior to initiation of its deployment to the project site. If waters or wetlands of the U.S., as defined in the Clean Water Act, are possibly affected by an engineering support action, Section 404 permit activities will be initiated by JTF-6 or the requesting LEA as early as possible in the planning stages. Discharges of grey water and other wastes to drainages or other water courses/bodies is prohibited. Portable latrines, provided and maintained by licensed contractors, will be used to the extent practicable.

5.2.4 Biological Resources

Professional biologists will be utilized to perform field surveys of construction sites as early as possible in the planning and design stages in order to avoid environmentally sensitive resources. These surveys will be coordinated through the appropriate Federal and state agencies. Biologists will also be used to monitor construction activities, especially in areas that are known or presumed to support protected species. Previously disturbed routes and locations will be used to the maximum extent practicable. If possible, construction activities will be scheduled at times when they are least likely to disturb breeding and nesting activities. Additionally, JTF-6 will attempt to minimize losses to vegetation by: (1) trimming vegetation along roadsides rather than removing the entire plant, (2) require heavy equipment to utilize road pullouts or other such disturbed areas, and (3) consider the possibility of revegetative efforts.

Project specific mitigation plans may be required for projects with potential to cause substantial impacts to wildlife habitat or to impact protected species or other environmentally sensitive resources; these plans will be closely coordinated with, and approved by, the FWS and appropriate state resource agency(s) prior to initiation of construction. It is the policy of JTF-6, however, to mitigate adverse impacts through the sequence of avoidance, minimization, and finally, compensation. Compensation varies and includes activities such as restoration of habitat in other areas, acquisition of lands, etc. and is coordinated with the USFWS and appropriate state resource agencies.

Prior to implementation of activities within the coastal zone of the Gulf of Mexico and Pacific Ocean, JTF-6 will obtain a coastal zone consistency determination from the state of Texas and California, respectively, as required by the Coastal Zone Management Act.

5.2.5 Cultural Resources

The continued use of professional archeologists to survey and monitor JTF-6 activities that have a potential for ground disturbance will ensure that historic properties are avoided; consequently, such activities will have no effect on historic properties. The LEA will be responsible for coordinating with the respective SHPO for maintenance activities involving earth moving operations in areas where historic properties have been previously identified. This coordination is necessary to ensure mitigation measures are implemented. Mitigation measures that could be used to preclude impacts

include, but are not limited to, data recovery, burial of the site with gravel or other aggregates, and use of professional archeologists as monitors during the maintenance operations.

If building demolition or renovation is proposed to be performed on a building that is greater than 50 years old, the requesting LEA/JTF-6 will consult with the respective SHPO regarding eligibility and effect pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.

6.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

6.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

6.1 GENERAL

The public involvement program for this project involved nine public scoping meetings, two public agencies scoping meetings and extensive coordination with various agencies throughout the preparation of the PEIS. In addition a public review process of the draft and final documents have been incorporated, as required by NEPA and CEQ Regulations for Implementation of NEPA.

6.2 PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Operations of Joint Task Force Six (JTF-6) activities was published in the *Federal Register* on 15 July 1993 (Appendix B). The NOI provided project background, pertinent contact addresses, and a summary of the project. The NOI also announced that public scoping meetings would be conducted to allow public input to the NEPA review process/documentation. Legal advertisements were placed in local newspapers of the selected meeting locations prior to the meeting dates. Copies of these notices are also included in Appendix B. The nine public scoping meetings were held at the following locations:

DATE	CITY	STATE
31 August 1993	Corpus Christi	Texas
01 September 1993	McAllen	Texas
02 September 1993	Laredo	Texas
14 September 1993	Alpine	Texas
16 September 1993	El Paso	Texas
12 October 1993	Deming	New Mexico
14 October 1993	Tucson	Arizona
19 October 1993	Yuma	Arizona
21 October 1993	San Diego	California

A brief description of the proposed activities and the NEPA process was presented at the beginning of each meeting. The floor was then opened for oral and written statements, concerns, and comments. All proceedings were recorded by a certified court reporter, and transcripts are available for review at

the Fort Worth District, Corps of Engineers office. The following paragraphs provide the significant concerns identified during the remaining public scoping meetings.

6.2.1 Corpus Christi Scoping Meeting

Six public participants attended the first scoping meeting. No comments were provided.

6.2.2 McAllen Scoping Meeting

Only two persons were present at the McAllen scoping meeting, neither of whom expressed any comments or concerns about the program.

6.2.3 Laredo Scoping Meeting

Ten public participants were present at this meeting which was held at the Laredo Community College. The significant issues raised when the floor was opened included:

* Concern with the perceived large size of the PEIS
* Soil erosion
* Concern with the perceived short time frame of the PEIS
* PEIS research methods
* Preservation of natural habitats
* Road construction techniques
* Availability of the PEIS

Most of the attendees also jointly submitted a letter iterating the same concerns.

6.2.4 Alpine Scoping Meeting

The Alpine meeting was attended by 20 public participants, mostly local landowners and employees at Sul Ross State University. The meeting was conducted at the Alpine Civic Center. The significant issues identified during this meeting included:

* Public access on constructed roads
* Effect on land values due to ecological and cultural resources surveys
* Right of Entry forms
* Access of private property by civilians
* Potential NEPA violations in regards to activities prior to the PEIS
* Concern with the timeliness and distribution of the Public Notice
* Magnitude of the environmental impacts
* Excessive JTF-6 budget
* Use of helicopters as an alternative to vehicular patrols
* Effectiveness of JTF-6 activities
* Feral animals from Mexico

* Fence specifications
* Data gaps in PEIS

6.2.5 El Paso Scoping Meeting

Only two public participants were present at the El Paso meeting which was held at the El Paso Civic Center. The only issue raised at this meeting involved concerns of adequate surveys for natural and cultural resource studies.

6.2.6 Deming Scoping Meeting

The Deming meeting was attended by 10 public participants. Public disclosure of sensitive resources and concerns for special management areas were the only two significant issues raised at this meeting.

6.2.7 Tucson Scoping Meeting

This meeting was the largest of the nine public scoping meetings with 70 public participants. The issues identified during this meeting included:

* Economic and human rights of both Mexican and American citizens
* Military activity on the border
* Socioeconomic and cultural aspects of the EIS
* Symbolism of a wall and military presence
* Wildlife impacts
* The reuse of existing roads instead of new construction
* Concern expressed over location of the scoping meeting
* Social-cultural impacts of a wall and fence
* Aesthetics of fences in urban areas
* Need for additional Border Patrol personnel
* Cohesion of border communities
* Lack of Public Notice regarding the scoping meeting
* Environmental effects of road construction within Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Cabeza Prieta National Wilderness Area and Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range
* Sensitive habitats

6.2.8 Yuma Scoping Meeting

Eight public participants, all of which were employees of Federal or state agencies, attended the Yuma scoping meeting. The significant issues and concerns identified during this meeting included:

* Limiting the project areas
* Cumulative impacts

* Endangered species
* Sensitive habitat areas

6.2.9 San Diego Scoping Meeting

The San Diego scoping meeting was attended by seven participants, some of whom were representatives of the International Boundary and Water Commission. No comments were received during this scoping meeting.

6.3 REQUIRED COORDINATION

Two public agencies scoping meetings were conducted concerning to this PEIS. The first was conducted in November 1991 in El Paso, Texas. This meeting was the impetus for the development of this PEIS. Participating agencies expressed their concerns that cumulative impacts were not being addressed in the project specific NEPA documents and that it was unclear which agency should be the lead agency in the PEIS.

The second agency meeting was conducted in Tucson, Arizona in December 1993 to provide the agencies with a status report of the PEIS and to inform them of the approach INS and JTF-6 were taking in developing the document. Significant issues raised during this meeting included mitigation costs, additional responsibility for NEPA documentation by the requesting LEAs, avoidance of protected species and environmentally sensitive areas, and relationship of JTF-6 program with other Federal actions. In regards to the latter, a presentation of the GIS funded by JTF-6 and maintained by the Fort Worth District was given. This GIS includes numerous layers of natural resource databases for the entire border region and is available to resource agencies, as appropriate.

The draft PEIS was circulated for comments to Federal and state resource agencies, elected and appointed public officials, and other individuals and organizations who requested copies. All persons in attendance at any of the public scoping meetings were placed on the mailing list for the draft document. A copy of the distribution list is also contained in Appendix B.

Comments on the draft PEIS were received from five Federal agencies, four state agencies, and four private individuals or organizations. A request for an extension of time for review and comment was received from individuals near Laredo, Texas and from the U.S. Department of the Interior. The

request was granted and the deadline extended from 30 May 1994 to 10 June 1994. Copies of all comments are presented on the following pages; responses to these comments are presented adjacent to each comment.

The FPEIS has been distributed to the same individuals as the DPEIS and others who have been subsequently identified.

Others may request a copy from the address given on the abstract page of the PEIS. A 30-day public review period, as required by CEQ, was initiated by publication of a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the *Federal Register* and local and state newspapers.

6.4 RESPONSES TO ISSUES

Some issues raised during the scoping process cannot or should not be addressed in an EIS. For instance, concern about the time frame or size of the PEIS can only be resolved through completion of the actual document. Other issues or concerns were addressed in the DPEIS or have been incorporated to the FPEIS. The following paragraphs describe these issues and where each is discussed within the FPEIS.

Impacts to soils, including indirect effects from erosion, is discussed in Sections 4.1, 4.8, 5.1.1, and 5.2.1 of the FPEIS. These sections also discuss road construction techniques relative to soil properties, including the use of existing routes. The potential of road construction/upgrading to encourage or increase poaching and trespass problems is addressed in Section 4.5.3.2.

Several comments were made concerning the need to preserve and protect sensitive natural resources. Such resources are discussed throughout Section 3; the potential impacts to these resources and mitigation measures to alleviate impacts are addressed in Sections 4.5.2, 4.5.3, 5.1.4 and 5.2.4.

The public involvement process including legal notices and responses to public comments on the DPEIS are discussed throughout this section (Section 6) of the FPEIS.

The effectiveness of the JTF-6 program is discussed in Section 4.6 of the FPEIS; other impacts (direct, indirect and cumulative) are described throughout Section 4. Visual resource effects are discussed in Table 2-2 and in Section 4.6.5.

6.5 PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE DPEIS

The Notice of Availability (NOA) of the DPEIS was published in the Federal Register on Friday, 15 April 1994. The public comment period was originally scheduled to close on 30 May 1994 but was extended to 10 June 1994 at the request of the U.S. Department of the Interior and individuals near Laredo, Texas.

Approximately 300 copies of the DEIS were sent to various agencies and the general public for review and comment. Of these, comments were received from five Federal agencies, four state agencies, and five private individuals/groups. Copies of these comments and the District's responses are presented on the following pages.

June 4, 1994

U.S. Army Engineer District
CESWF-PL-RE
Post Office Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to give my comments on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) concerning the activities of Joint Task Force Six along the southwest land border of the United States, along with my suggestions. My comments have to do with section number 6.0 entitled, "Public Involvement," which purports to give information on the Public Scoping Meetings. I attendended the Public Scoping Meeting held in Tucson, Arizona on October 14, 1993.

It is obvious, from looking at the attendance figures for the majority of the meetings (eg. two persons at the McAllen meeting, six at Corpus Christi, two at El Paso, eight at Yuma) that the meetings were not announced to the public through appropriate media and in a manner which would insure that the mainstream citizenry would actually receive news of the meetings. I know that there are many, many people in those areas who are concerned about the impact of the steel fence and the militarization of the border who would attend such meetings if they had received word of them.

Another serious concern, for me, is the format and content of the minuscule blurbs given for each meeting, under "issues raised when the floor was opened." I will use the Tucson meeting as an example, since I was in attendance (p. 6-3). A list with short items such as "Military activity on the border," "Symbolism of a wall and military presence," "social-cultural impacts of a wall and fence," "cohesion of border communities," and "lack of Public Notice regarding the scoping meeting," fails to convey any information at all about the tenor of the meeting, consensus of those in attendance on particular issues, or about the nature of concerns expressed. This type of format and list tells one virtually nothing about the meeting and about public concerns. Many persons spoke in Tucson and there was overwhelming opposition to the steel fence and to military presence on the border. None of the Public Scoping meeting blurbs give any clue to the predominant opinions expressed. The Tucson section certainly does not even hint at the overwhelming opposition to these operations that was expressed over and over again by participants.

Unfortunately, a report of this nature, with this format, appears to be an attempt to suppress or obscure the concerns that were expressed at the Public Scoping Meetings. I would hope that the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would rewrite this section and at least, if they are to be shorts blurbs, make the blurbs reflect the tenor of the meetings, and levels of consensus about militarization of the border and the steel fences. This section should be expanded to reflect actual concerns expressed at the meetings, which should also be statistically tabulated. However, due to the manner in which meetings were announced, reflected in the poor attendance at the meetings, further Public Scoping Meetings should be held.

Sincerely,

Laura L. Cummings

6-7

LLC-1. Legal notices of the scoping meetings were placed in numerous newspapers along the border; copies of these notices are included in Appendix B. In addition, the Public Affairs Office of the Fort Worth District, Corps of Engineers issued press releases to each of these and other regional newspapers; however, it is the decision of the newspapers to publish the press releases.

LLC-2. The purpose and intent of scoping meetings are to identify issues to be addressed in the EIS, ... to quantify the number of proponents and opponents of a project. In addition, these public ... scoping meetings were intended to discuss issues associated with the Programmatic EIS and ... specific JTF-6 projects such as the "steel fence." Such site specific projects had already been addressed in separate NEPA documents, as indicated in the DPEIS. The phrases presented in the DPEIS provided a list of issues that were identified at each meeting; full transcripts of each meeting, as was stated in the DPEIS, are available for review at the Fort Worth District Office.

LLC-3. Please refer to Response LLC-2, above, concerning the purpose of scoping meetings in regard to proponents and opponents. As indicated in Response LLC-1, above, public notices were published throughout the project area. No other requests for public meetings have been received since the release of the DPEIS; therefore, INS/JTF-6 elected not to conduct additional meetings.

5305 East Pima Street
Tucson, Arizona 85715
May 21, 1994

U.S. Army Engineer District, Fort Worth
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Sirs:

Speaking for Arizonans for Immigration Reform, we would like to go on record as endorsing a greatly expanded JTF-6 program.

A crisis exists on our Southern Border we all know what it is drugs and illegal aliens. The Border Patrol does not have enough agents to protect our nation, so any and all help they can get is greatly needed.

The J.T.F. 6 program working with law enforcement agencies creates a much needed positive image with the public. With military personell taking over some of the secondary duties of the Border Patrol, it releases agents presently involved in those duties to their primary jobs, intercepting drugs and illegal aliens.

It is a win win situation for both the military and the Border Patrol with the biggest benefactor the United States citizen.

Arizonans for Immigration Reform was reactivated in September 1993 with two objectives. First to alert the public to the problems and costs of illegal immigration. Secondly to support the Border Patrol and publicize their positive accomplishments.

Repeat, we endorse and need a greatly expanded J.T.F-6 program to back up the Border Patrol.

Sincerely
Wes Bramhall, Chairman

6-8

WB-1. Thank you for your comment

gf st B
Tucson, Arizona
85711

Mr. William Fickel, Jr.
Chief, Planning Division
Dept. of the Army
Fort Worth, Texas. 76102

Dear Sir:

I can't put in words how pleased I am to know that the JTF-6 program is moving ahead to help the INS control our US/ Mexico Boarder. After reading the 170 pages titled, "Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement JTF-6 Activities" it became clear to me that My Government is starting to act on a very serious problem. Having lived in Arizona for 73 years and observing the influx Mexicans into the United States it will take more than five (5) years to close the gate. Your program is a good start and the cost need not be a hinderance.

CIP-1. Thank you for your comment

As I read the report I found myself agreeing with the complete program. I did feel that you were too careful or afraid that you may offend a few individuals within the country and out! There comes a time that we must protect our country for our future generations!

CIP-2. Thank you for your comment.

With all the planing organized I did wonder why you didn't use about Six Blimps along the border. While in the U.S. Coast Guard Air Sea Rescue we worked with the Navy when we needed a Blimp to stay over an object in the water. It seems they would be ideal for the type of work that you will be doing.

CIP-3. Aerostats are currently being used by U.S. Air Force through NORAD for counterdrug operations along the US/Mexico border.

I wish to thank you for allowing me to be part of this great undertaking. We live in the best country in the world and we all should be willing protect it against all enemies regardless of the cost.

CIP-4. Thank you for your comment.

I'll be reading and watching the T.V. News as this wonderful cooperation takes place.

Thank You,

[redacted] Phillips.

6-9

Tucson, Az.
May 23, 1994

PL-R

Dept. of the Army
Ft. Worth Dist.
Corps of Engineers

Dear Mr. [illegible],

I thank you for once again allowing us to share our concerns with you concerning the uncontrolled southern border, Arizona, particularly the Nogales, Ariz. / Nogales, Mex. For each day of the week and [illegible]) from four thousand to five thousand illegals are caught in the U.S. from that uncontrolled crossing!! Believe, the [illegible] to the Border Patrol, so what we may [illegible] [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]!!

[illegible] three weeks ago the Ariz. [illegible] reported that a bus load (50 individuals) of illegal aliens were caught by the highway patrol just north of the International Border on their way to Atlanta. Contact the border patrol (INS) and [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] have the manpower to process them and they were turned loose on the American people for free medical attention, free housing and welfare, free social programs, to take money, to commit crimes and to fill our [illegible]!!!! God in Heaven!! Who is taking care of the sovereign U.S. and its citizens?!

Since each person that serves in the U.S. military takes an oath to protect the borders of the U.S. I cannot imagine why the border is not protected against uncontrolled hordes of illegals.

Anyway, the moral of this story is that most of the American citizens want the border closed! Whatever it takes. If it is the Great Wall of China — so be it. If it's the guards with machine guns — so be it. Mexico will in no way help pay for or work any sort of barrier to protect the U.S.

MP-1. Thank you for your comment.

The sooner you put that wall in place the lesser the price you & all other Americans will be forced to pay. Do not let them across the border.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Maydell [illegible]
3609 E Seneca
Tucson, Az 85716

SIERRA CLUB
SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO GROUP
PO Box 3705 UPB Las Cruces, NM 88003

May 29, 1994

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
ATTN: CESWF-PL-R (Mr. Eric Verwers)
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Re: Draft Programmatic EIS JTF-6 Activities Along The U.S.-Mexico Border

Dear Eric Verwers:

On behalf of the Southern New Mexico Group of the Sierra Club, we wish to make the following Comments on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) JTF-6 Activities Along the US - Mexico Border.

6-12

At the time of the Scoping for this DPEIS JTF-6, neither the Sierra Club nor the public was aware of the existence of the "Range Master Plan for Fort Bliss Texas". This Plan did not go through the National Environmental Policy Act process, as we believe it should have. Activities described by the DPEIS JTF-6 are consistent with the Plan's described expansioned uses of public lands in New Mexico. These include, but are not limited to, bivouac of 500-800 troops, helicopter gunnery range, and radar tracking facility on McGregor Range.

Where there has been public protest to the use of New Mexico, public lands by the military, the EIS must specifically name and describe these locations. Example: McGregor Range, a range used for cattle grazing, hunting, and wildlife watching, which is managed by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A range known to all interested New Mexico citizens to be presently used by JTF-6.

Under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the military must prepare an Environmental Impact Statement BEFORE activities are initiated which may adversely effect the environment. The EIS must include an evaluation of cummulative effects, and should be based on Biologic Evaluations and base-line data. Postponement of biologic and cummulative effects analysis until a later date is not acceptable or legal. References alone in the Final EIS that biologic information has been evaluated, or that base-line data exists in a Volume in Fort Worth, Texas, is not acceptable to meet the legal requirements in light of public interest in New

MAT-1. JTF-6 is a tenant at Fort Bliss and has no control or knowledge of the Range Master Plan for Fort Bliss Texas. Additionally, JTF-6 has no plans to develop or construct a helicopter gunnery range or radar tracking facility on McGregor Range, Fort Bliss.

MAT-2. The portion of McGregor Range, an established military training range encompassing over a million acres in Texas and New Mexico, that has been "used" by JTF-6 is located within the southern firing range complex, approximately 15 miles north of El Paso. To our knowledge this area is restricted to military use and BLM grazing activities only.

MAT-3. Individual EAs and other NEPA documents were prepared on a project by project basis prior to the decision to conduct this programmatic investigation. JTF-6 elected to prepare the PEIS because concerns arose about the cumulative effects of all the individual projects throughout the southwestern U.S. The Environmental Baseline Documents, which contain existing conditions information that was incorporated by reference in the DPEIS, are available for review at libraries throughout the project area, including El Paso and Las Cruces.

Mexico, and the sparcity of information in the DPEIS. Cummulative effects have not been adaquately addressed. This should be done particularly for McGregor Range, and Alamo Mountain, two areas where members of the Southern New Mexico Group of the Sierra Club have found evidence of use by JTF-6.

MAT-4. Cumulative impacts were discussed throughout Section 4 of the DPEIS and summarized in Section 4.8. As mentioned previously, McGregor Range has restricted access to the public for safety and security reasons.

Under WATER RESOURCES at page 4-5 last line, mention is made of "The largest such exercise involved 600 troops for a 30-day period." If the area referenced is McGregor Range (area totally in New Mexico), the EIS should state that under New Mexico Water Law the waters available on Otero Mesa are limited to use for grazing and wildlife, and are not for human consumption or road watering. Adaquate water does not exist for the bivouac of these troops on McGregor Range, or for road watering (pg. 5-3 last para.)

MAT-5. The area described in the DPEIS was not Otero Mesa, nor any other portion of McGregor Range. Field operations such as this one will require water and other supplies to be transported to the field site(s). The troops do not utilize wildlife and stock tanks for potable or sanitary water supplies.

At page 4-28 Section 4.7.2 Engineering Support Services, it is stated in last paragraph that "The resulting increase in traffic and subsequent erosion will likely result in long-term adverse effects to historic properties." Not knowing to which areas this statement specifically refers, we make the following Comment, Alamo Mountain has extensive petroglyphs, and an historic site at its summit. The use of Alamo Mountain by JTF-6 should not continue. There is extensive evidence of ancient Indian writing on Wind Mountain also, and it should not be used by JTF-6. McGregor Range also has archeologic sites, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and a Wilderness Study Area. These facts should be included.

MAT-6. The area referred to are all the road repair/construction sites which contained cultural resources. JTF-6 has not utilized Alamo Mountain for any support activity. Environmentally sensitive resources such as Wilderness Study Areas are discussed in the Environmental Baseline documents which were summarized in Section 3 of the DPEIS.

At page 4-28 and 4-29 Section 4.8.1 Operational Support Services, specifically pg. 4-29 para. 2 "Firing range upgrade and construction is the second most ground disturbing service provided by JTF-6. The facilities built thus far under this program have resulted in approximately 450 acres being disturbed. The majority of this impact has occured in the west Texas region where site avoidance has resulted in no impact to cultural resources." The only firing ranges of which we are aware, are the one built by JTF-6 for the City of Alamogordo or Otero County, New Mexico, and the one on McGregor Range, also in New Mexico, not in Texas. Neither of these facilities, individually or together are presently 450 acres in size. A 450 acre firing range is extremely large, unless missiles are involved! We do not believe these existing firing ranges should be expanded.

MAT-7. The 450 acres is the total amount of land encompassed by the 21 weapons training ranges upgraded or constructed by JTF-6 during the past five years. Such training facilities constructed by JTF-6 generally range in size from one to 10 acres.

At page 4-29 Section 4.8.1 Operational Support Services paragraph 1, mention is made of of LP/OP activities, and paragraph 2 mentions "terrain denial and ground patrol activities". If these activities are within the boundaries of McGregor Range, they are not evironmentally acceptable. Dust between 1/2 and 1 inch thick on creosote bush and other plants has been observed on Otero Mesa, McGregor Range after Ft. Bliss exercises. This has a MAJOR cummulative effect on the wildlife and the plants upon which they

MAT-8. JTF-6 operations and Fort Bliss exercises are not connected. JTF-6 operations on McGregor Range involve primarily foot traffic.

depend, and upon the cattle which graze and live on Otero Mesa, McGregor Range, New Mexico. Public Law 99-606 states that Otero Mesa, McGregor Range is to be managed by BLM under FLPMA for multiple use. Military exercises and activities are not compatible with BLM management, and State of New Mexico Department of Game and Fish hunting program.

At page 4-30 Section 4.8.2 Engineering Support Services para. 1. This paragraph does not, as the rest of the document, give any indication of specific location of the 2,400 acres which "have been cleared by JTF-6". In normal parlance, used by the public, the word "cleared" means to clear of vegetation by a grader or other vehicle. The only other meaning of the word "cleared" of which we are familiar, is a meaning used by the Army Corps of Engineers. In this case, I was told by a staff member associated with Mr. Aver Ferguson, Fort Worth District, ACOE, the word "cleared" means "OK to use". A Final EIS should state facts clearly and use definitions familiar to the public.

We suspect a primary area referred to in this DPEIS is McGregor Range. Sentences and words such as "This represents less than 0.01 percent of the total land area within the project area. Wildlife populations have been directly and indirectly affected by these activities, primarily through the reductions in habitat acreage. During the next five years, an additional 3,000 acres would be expected to be cleared for similar use." are familiar from our Roving Sands EIS analyses. In the context of this DPEIS, these statements are not intelligible without specific site references. If McGregor Range is the area, any Decision to expand military activities on McGregor Range is not environmentally sound or acceptable.

At page 5-1 Section 5.0 Mitigation. Without reference to specific sites, it is impossible to accurately evaluate this section. But, we suspect the entire DPEIS refers primarily to McGregor Range in New Mexico, because activities described, poorly as they are, are consistent with acitivities described in the "Range Master Plan for Fort Bliss Texas" (although the Master Plan activities are "planned" to be in New Mexico!) and activities described in the EIS for Roving Sands. Terms such as, "Field latrines and soak pits ... Bivouac, TOC and POL storage sites... wildlife and livestock tanks.. ameliorate impacts to nesting or less motile species.... water roads" are also consistent with the uses of and needs for Roving Sands on McGregor Range. Are JTF-6 Activities to be conducted in concert with Roving Sands? Other exercises? If so the cummulative effects need to be analyzed.

In conclusion, this DPEIS is not complete, does not specify or describe areas to be effected, and does not describe land ownership and management, and it should. When construction and associated environmental degradation can be expected, members New Mexico Congressional delegation and their staffs, and the public

MAT-9. JTF-6 has not conducted nor planned any projects on Otero Mesa. It should be noted, however, that Otero Mesa was included in the 1986 Military Lands Withdrawal Act (PL99-606) with allowances for military test and training exercises.

MAT-10. The 2,400 acres that have been cleared of vegetation have been addressed in previous NEPA documents prepared for site-specific projects located throughout the 40 million-acre project area. The term "cleared" is also used to denote that an area has been surveyed for protected species, cultural resources and other environmentally significant resources and is found to be void of such resources. This term has been clarified in the FPEIS.

MAT-11. The primary project area is a 50-mile corridor along the southern boundaries of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California. However, as indicated in the first sentence of the DPEIS, JTF-6 projects can be conducted throughout these four southwestern states. There is no need to provide counterdrug support operations on military lands such as McGregor Range.

MAT-12. Project specific mitigation measures will be developed on individual basis. It is impossible to develop a specific mitigation plan prior to identification of projects. See Response MAT-1 relative to the Range Master Plan; however, please note that Fort Bliss is headquartered in Texas and extends into New Mexico. One would expect that all Army documents would contain similar verbiage and acronyms to describe the same type of item or activity. JTF-6 has no plans to conduct joint exercises with Roving Sands. Roving Sands is a multi-service ground to air and air-to-air defense exercise which does not involve counterdrug activities.

should be totally informed before activities are begun. The DPEIS is totally in-adaquately in this regard. Neither the Army, the EPA, nor the JTF-6 informed the public of the true nature of the activities and expansions, and still has not. Those that should be particularly informed are those with BLM Affected Interest status, and Organizations which represent those who use the effected area, including but not limited to, ranchers, hunters, and wildlife watchers.

Because the Areas to be used by JTF-6 Activities are not specifically described, we reserve the right to make Comments in the future when you provide more site specific information.

Sincerely,

Marianne H. Thaeler

Marianne H. Thaeler
Chair, Southern New Mexico Group
Military Issues Chair Rio Grande Chapter
Sierra Club

cc: Senator Pete Domenici
Senator Jeff Bingaman
Congressmen Skeen, Richardson, and Schiff
BLM, Las Cruces District
New Mexico Wildlife Federation

MAT-13 See Response MAT-3. In addition, nine public scoping meetings and two agency scoping meetings were held at various locations throughout the project areas. BLM was represented at several of these meetings.

THE STATE OF ARIZONA

GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT

2221 West Greenway Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85023-4399 (602) 942-3000

June 10, 1994

Mr. Eric Verwers
U.S. Army Engineer District, Fort Worth
ATTN: CESWF-PL-RE
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Re: Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS); Joint Task Force Six (JTF-6) Activities

Dear Mr. Verwers:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) has reviewed the above-referenced DPEIS for JTF-6 activities along the U.S.-Mexico border, and the following comments are provided.

GENERAL COMMENTS

6-16

The very nature of the DPEIS (Section 1.0) creates difficulties in evaluating the impacts of JTF-6 projects on the environment by limiting the degree of specificity which the analyses are able to attain. This is especially true of analyses of the potential cumulative effects of actions conducted under this documentation. If impact mitigation is to be effective under these conditions, the mitigation measures outlined in the DPEIS, and the circumstances under which they are to be employed, should be very detailed. In general, the Department believes that the mitigation measures contained in the DPEIS may not be effective due to their lack of detail. We encourage the Army Corps of Engineers to include specific wording that individual Environmental Assessments will be conducted to evaluate potential site-specific impacts, and to identify appropriate mitigation measures.

AGFD-1. The mitigation section (Section 5) has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate specific language concerning subsequent EAs and associated mitigation measures.

The Department believes that cumulative effects should be more adequately addressed in the final PEIS. Cumulative effects can be ameliorated somewhat in the planning process by considering project timing and location, physiographic features, operation size, and specific activities. Cumulative effects analyses should compare spatial relationships of past JTF-6 activities and other impacts/land uses to future projects, in addition to the effects of multiple entries or differing associated activities at a site. Also, quantifying cumulative effects and delineating past projects on maps of a scale large enough to facilitate on-the-ground accuracy are desirable.

AGFD-2. Due to the size of the project area relative to the size of each project-specific site, it would be very difficult to illustrate the spatial relationships in a clear manner without numerous cumbersome maps. The cumulative impacts to wildlife habitats and populations has been expanded to include previous and anticipated cumulative impacts of JTF-6 projects. Project specific NEPA documents for future JTF-6 projects will, as was indicated in the DPEIS, consider various mitigation measures such as timing and location, operation size and duration, and physiographic features to ameliorate not only site specific impacts but also cumulative impacts associated with the overall program. The FWCOE has initiated efforts to input locations of construction project sites, by type, completed by JTF-6 in the GIS. This data layer can be used in the future to document/assess cumulative impacts within each region.

Repeated mention is made of the "short" duration of activities and the "temporary" nature of disturbances to vegetation and soils. However, duration of activity isn't always an accurate indicator of the severity of an impact. There is considerable variation in habitat type and quality within the area in which JTF-6 operates, and the abilities of those habitats to withstand and recover from disturbances will vary accordingly.

AGFD-3. In addition to duration of an activity, the DPEIS also repeatedly stated that numerous other biotic and abiotic variables will have effects upon the magnitude of the impacts and the ability of the areas' natural resources to recover.

There seems to be a recurring implication that the adverse impacts resulting from JTF-6 activities are insignificant because project areas have been previously disturbed or altered. The Department contends that activities occurring within previously disturbed areas have the potential to result in direct and indirect impacts to wildlife resources both within and adjacent to the project area.

AGFD-4. While INS/JTF-6 acknowledge that wildlife habitat occurs within disturbed areas (indeed, some floral and faunal species flourish under these circumstances), we contend that limiting construction activities within previously disturbed sites significantly reduces the magnitude of adverse impacts to most natural populations. There will, of course, be impacts as was stated in the DPEIS (see, for example, Table 4-4). Our opinion of insignificance is based not only upon the fact that construction activities are contained largely within disturbed areas, but also on the amount of similar, undisturbed habitat available in the project vicinity; the narrow, linear features of most JTF-6 construction operations (ie., roads and fences); and the JTF-6 policy of avoidance of protected species and environmentally sensitive or unique habitats.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Pages 1-6 and 1-7 - The Department recommends that project-specific documentation required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and interagency coordination regarding future actions be discussed, as well as the application of the DPEIS to those projects. The relationship between Department of Defense Directive 6501 and NEPA should be discussed, especially regarding the use of Records of Environmental Considerations and the authority for their preparation in lieu of Environmental Assessments. We also recommend that, when preparing those project-specific documents, consideration be given to the need for evaluation of a reasonable range of alternatives to allow an adequate comparison of the alternatives' potentials for adversely impacting wildlife resources.

AGFD-5. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate additional verbiage concerning NEPA documentation for site specific projects relative to the DoD Directive 6501.

AGFD-6. As was discussed in Section 2.1 of the DPEIS, a detailed evaluation of project-specific alternatives and various mitigation measures is applied by JTF-6 for each project.

Page 1-13 (1.4.4) - The Department believes that it would be very difficult for 30-40 troops to establish a Tactical Operations Center and conduct a 30-day operation without removing, cutting or otherwise clearing any vegetation. Apart from intentional removal there would likely be a significant amount of trampling and establishing of new roads and trails.

AGFD-7. As indicated in Section 4.1.1, ground patrol and terrain denial operations do result in crushing and trampling of vegetation, particularly within the TOC areas. However, clearing of vegetation for tents and other bivouac facilities is restricted. In addition, as noted in this same section, participating troops in many of these operations do not even use tents which further reduces the potential damage to vegetation.

Page 1-14 (1.5.1) - The cumulative effects of upgrading and maintaining up to 300 miles of roads per year should be addressed. The Department believes that any improvements to a road where mature and semi-mature shrubs and trees have significantly reduced its width should be viewed as construction of a new road.

AGFD-8. Cumulative effects were discussed throughout Section 4 and summarized in Section 4.8.1 of the DPEIS. Defining a new road will have to be coordinated with the appropriate Federal and state resource agencies on a project-by-project basis. A new road could be constructed through a grassland where no trees nor shrubs exist.

Page 1-15 (1.5.3)

The Department suggests that the Army Corps of Engineers consult with representatives of the National Rifle Association regarding safety concerns with "tire houses". As part of the Department's participation in developing local shooting ranges, it has come to our attention that relatively low velocity handgun ammunition can bounce off these structures with significant remaining velocity.

AGFD-9. Thank you for your comment.

Page 1-15 (1.5.4) - The Department recommends locating helipads such that construction of new access roads is unnecessary, and designing adequate procedures for the prevention and containment of petroleum, oil, or lubricant (POL) spills. These recommendations also apply to Section 1.5.5.

Page 1-16 (1.5.8) - Activities associated with fence repair and construction should be addressed, such as road improvement, culvert installation, and the filling of gullies.

Page 3-22 (3.4.7) - References to state-listed species should cite the Department's publication, Threatened Native Wildlife in Arizona (1988) and the Arizona Native Plant Law. The Department recommends addressing impacts to planned reintroductions of special status species such as tarahumara frog and aplomado falcon.

Page 3-22 (3.4.8) - The Department recommends that all riparian areas be considered sensitive.

Page 4-4 (4.1.2) - The Department does not concur with labelling the clearing of 110 acres as insignificant simply because it is a small percentage of the area in which JTF-6 operates. Depending on the sensitivity or rarity of the habitat involved, the impacts could be very significant. The Department recommends deleting the remainder of the last sentence of the first paragraph after the words "land being altered".

Page 4-11 (4.5.1) - Because almost any site could be considered as disturbed in one sense or another (e.g. grazed lands), clarification of what constitutes a disturbance should be presented.

Page 4-11 (4.5.1.1) - Ways in which listening post/observation post (LP/OP) operations are designed to "produce minimal impacts to vegetation communities" should be discussed. Depending on the degree of damage and type of plant, some vegetation may not begin to recover within one year of disturbance.

Page 4-12 (4.5.1.2) - The DPEIS indicates that construction rights-of-way which are allowed to revegetate naturally will greatly reduce the acreage which has been altered by fence construction. The Department believes that, because of the long time period required for natural revegetation to occur in a desert environment, this opinion may be overly optimistic. Maintenance of fence lines is likely to hinder or prevent revegetation, and repeated disturbance may encourage invasion by exotic plant species.

Page 4-14 (4.5.3) - Actions which JTF-6 has taken for the protection and enhancement of habitat should be specified for future reference and potential inclusion as mitigation features.

AGFD-10. Section 2.1.2.4 has been revised to include design measures to ensure prevention and containment of accidental POL spills. This section includes location of helipads and access roads as environmental design criteria.

AGFD-11. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate descriptions of other major activities that are associated with fence repair/construction operations.

AGFD-12. This section summarizes the five volumes of the Technical Support Documents, prepared separately by JTF-6. Citations contained in Volume 4--Arizona Land Border include the Threatened native Wildlife in Arizona as well as the Arizona native Plant Law. Section 4 of the FPEIS has been revised to include potential effects to planned reintroductions of protected species.

AGFD-13. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate riparian areas as sensitive resources.

AGFD-14. Please see Response AGFD-4, above.

AGFD-15. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate a more detailed description of "disturbed lands".

AGFD-16. In order for a LP/OP site to be effective in the observation of illegal drug activities (and provide realistic military training), it is inherent that the site be maintained in extant, natural conditions as possible. There will be some trampling of vegetation within the immediate site (similar to any recreational campsite), but the area is kept to minimum size in order to preclude detection by smugglers. Other mitigation measures considered prior to each LP/OP operation are presented in Section 2.1.1.

AGFD-17. Revegetation will be considered as a mitigation measure on a project-by-project basis and coordinated through the appropriate resource agency such as the Arizona Department of Game and Fish, Arizona Department of Agriculture, or Bureau of Land Management. It should be reemphasized, however, that fence construction is generally performed in or near urban areas where much of the natural vegetation communities have been previously altered. Construction or maintenance of fences in these areas would not be expected to encourage exotic species to invade any more than that which is currently existing. In fact, some fence construction, such as that near San Diego, has protected natural communities located north of the border from illegal vehicle and foot traffic.

AGFD-18. See Responses AGFD-1 and AGFD-6, above.

Page 4-16 (4.5.3.2) - The Department recommends that interagency coordination be requested when conducting surveys, as early as possible in the planning process, and that these actions be applied to all projects. In addition to allowing for the incorporation of the survey results into project design, a more accurate comparison could be made of the wildlife resource impacts of the various alternatives. The Department does not concur the surveying 50-100 feet from the roadway will "...ensure identification of all protected species within the potential area of effect." We believe the statement may be accurate when referring to actual removal of disturbance of vegetation, however disturbance from the activity could occur well beyond 100 feet. Examples are effects to water quality downstream from water crossing and active raptor nests that occur beyond 100 feet, but still within one-quarter of a mile, from the roadway.

AGFD-19. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate discussion of indirect effects outside the construction ROW. JTF-6 and the Corps routinely coordinate with the appropriate agency(s) prior to initiation of surveys for protected species.

Page 5-1 (5.0) - The Department suggests stating that avoidance is the preferred form of mitigation and, in particular, that this philosophy should be practiced with regard to riparian habitat. Mitigation plans outlining the specific measures to be applied should be formulated for all projects, not just those with the potential for impacting protected species or sensitive areas. We also suggest that all mitigation plans, whether programmatic or project-specific, contain planting and other measures for the reclamation of damaged habitat.

AGFD-20. See Responses AGFD-1, AGFD-6 and AGFD-17, above.

Page 5-2 (5.1.3) - Bivouac, Tactical Operation Center and POL storage sites should also be located outside of riparian areas.

AGFD-21. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to state riparian areas as off-limits to POL, TOC and bivouac sites.

Page 5-2 (5.1.4) - When stating that "areas which are known to support threatened or endangered species will be considered off-limits to avoid impacts to these resources," it should be clarified as to whether this includes state-listed and candidate species. The Department also believes mitigation measures should be instituted in areas which, in the professional judgment of the biologists involved, suitable habitat is present and the potential exists for the presence of special status species.

AGFD-22. It is the INS/JTF-6 policy to avoid impacts to all state and Federally protected species. However, avoidance of state protected species may not be possible at all times. Close coordination with the appropriate agencies will be maintained in an attempt to avoid such impacts.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this DPEIS. The Department looks forward to being involved with the planning and review process, and assisting in the review and development of project-specific mitigation plans. If you have any questions, please contact me at 789-3605.

Sincerely,

Ron Christofferson

Ron Christofferson
Project Evaluation Coordinator
Habitat Branch

RAC:GSS:ss

cc: Dave Walker, Supervisor, Project Evaluation Program,
Habitat Branch
Steve Ferrell, Regional Supervisor, Region III, Kingman
Larry Voyles, Regional Supervisor, Region IV, Yuma
Gerry Perry, Regional Supervisor, Region V, Tucson
Terry Johnson, Chief, Nongame Branch
Sam Spiller, State Supervisor, Az. E.S. State Office, USFWS
James McGinnis, Manager, Native Plant Law, ADA

AGFD# 4-25-94(04)

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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Governor

Judith M. Espinosa
Secretary

Ron Curry
Deputy Secretary

May 25, 1994

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Forth Worth District
ATTN: CESWF-PL-R (Eric Verwers)
P.O. Box 17300
Forth Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Dear Mr. Verwers:

RE: JTF-6 ACTIVITIES ALONG THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER, DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, APRIL 1994

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) staff reviewed the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) referenced above, and have the following comments:

WATER QUALITY

The DPEIS for JTF-6 operations is very general, as it is indeed expected to be, due to the nature of the operations. Review of the sections on septic systems, ground water quality in New Mexico, and water resources elicits the necessity of stressing the following requirement: To find out whether discharge permits will be required, in the case of plans to dispose of any domestic waste or grease trap waste during field exercises, notification must be provided (at least 120 days prior to start-up of the operations) to the Ground Water Section of the Ground Water Protection and Remediation Bureau of the NMED. NMED-1.

Stated in the DPEIS is that all septic systems are constructed in accordance with state regulations. This statement could not be correct, however, without possession of liquid waste or ground water discharge permits for each of the remote permanent facilities involved in the operations. NMED-2.

We find no conflicts in the document with any of New Mexico's surface water quality laws or regulations at this time. Nevertheless, we would like to emphasize that any changes in the proposed JTF-6 activities that could impact

NMED-1. As stated in the DPEIS, sanitary wastewater and grease trap wastes are collected and disposed of by licensed contractors. In all cases, JTF-6 units comply with state and local regulations concerning gray water discharges. Most gray water from field showers and mess facilities is collected and transported to approved disposal/treatment systems. Only in a few isolated cases is gray water discharged to the ground and only where allowed by state and local agencies. JTF-6 will ensure that the NMED is notified of such proposed discharges for all JTF-6 operations to be conducted in New Mexico.

NMED-2. To date, JTF-6 has not constructed any septic systems within New Mexico. Any such systems would be constructed as a permanent appurtenant structure of another LEA facility such as a Border Patrol checkpoint. All state and Federal construction and operation permits would be obtained prior to construction of the wastewater systems. See also Response NMED-1, above.

surface water quality, must comply with New Mexico Water Quality Standards, Water Quality Control Commission regulations, the Water Quality Act, and related New Mexico statutes.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

No conflicts with hazardous waste regulations are apparent in the DPEIS. The overall impact to human health and the environment from hazardous waste activities under the proposed project appear to be quite minimal. However, there is some discussion of alternatives for firing ranges and shooting houses regarding location and design of lead retention/collection systems. Any activities, such as firing ranges, that may ge-erate hazardous waste would, of course, have to comply with the hazardous waste regulations (HWMR-7). Insufficient detail is provided in the document to assess the potential impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposal. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gedi Cibas, Ph.D.
Environmental Impact Review Coordinator

NMED File No. 813ER

NMED-3. Thank you for your comment. JTF-6 has committed to comply with all Federal and state environmental regulations.

NMED-4. As indicated in the DPEIS, the operation and maintenance of lead retention/collection systems associated with firing ranges are the responsibility of the LEA. JTF-6 will install matting or sheeting under new safety berms to alleviate the potential of lead leaching into ground water supplies.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Fife Symington, Governor Edward Z. Fox, Director

Nonpoint Source Unit, 5th Floor
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FAX (602) 207-4467
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May 20, 1994

Mr. Eric Verwers
CESWF-PL-R
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Re: **Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Continuation of JTF-6 Support Services Along the U.S.-Mexico Border (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California), Your Publication (April 1994)**

Dear Mr. Verwers:

6-23

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality, Nonpoint Source Unit (NPS), appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Continuation of JTF-6 Support Services Along the U.S.-Mexico Border (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California). The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality has identified the following areas (reaches) encompassed by the proposed project:

Colorado Main Stem: Colorado River (HUC 15030104-001 thru 013, 15030107-001 thru 003), Gila River (HUC 15070201-001 thru 014), Vamori Wash (HUC 15080101-003 thru 005, 017);

San Pedro: San Pedro River (HUC 15050202-001 thru 008, 15050203-008 thru 012), Banning Creek (HUC 15050202-), and Greenbush Draw (HUC 15050202-);

Santa Cruz: Santa Cruz River (HUC 15050301-001 thru 010, 012, 15050303-006), Nogales Wash (HUC 15050301-011), Sonoita Creek (HUC 15050301-013), Medera Canyon Creek (HUC 15050301-006 off4), Harshaw Creek (HUC 15050301-013 off17S), Brawley Wash (HUC 15050304-003 thru 007).

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality offers the following comments:

1. The Colorado River (HUC 15030104-001 thru 013, 15030107-001 thru 003), Gila River (HUC 15070201-001 thru 014), Vamori Wash (HUC 15080101-003), San Pedro River (HUC 15050202-001 thru 008, 15050203-008 thru 012), Banning Creek (HUC 15050202-), Greenbush Draw (HUC 15050202-), Santa Cruz River (HUC 15050301-001 thru 010, 012, 15050303-006), Nogales Wash (HUC 15050301-011), Sonoita Creek (HUC 15050301-013), Harshaw Creek (HUC 15050301-013 off17S), and Brawley Wash (HUC 15050304-003 thru 007) were evaluated and monitored as full, partial, and non attaining for arsenic, barium, boron, cadmium, copper, cyanide, chromium, iron, lead, manganese, mercury, selenium, zinc, metals, ammonium, nitrates, phosphates, phosphorus, sulfates, bacteria, pH, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), sediment, nutrients,

toxics, erosion, and turbidity in the 1988 NPS Assessment Report, (see enclosed Surface Water Assessment, for Colorado Main Stem, San Pedro, Santa Cruz River Basins).

2. The Colorado River (HUC 15030104-001 thru 013, 15030107-001 thru 003), Gila River (HUC 15070201-001 thru 014), Vamori Wash (HUC 15080101-003 thru 005, 017), San Pedro River (HUC 15050202-001 thru 008, 15050203-008 thru 012), Banning Creek (HUC 15050202-), Greenbush Draw (HUC 15050202-), Santa Cruz River (HUC 15050301-001 thru 010, 012, 15050303-006), Nogales Wash (HUC 15050301-011), Sonoita Creek (HUC 15050301-013), and Brawley Wash (HUC 15050304-003 thru 007) were evaluated and monitored as threatened, partial and non attaining for arsenic, boron, cadmium, copper, chromium, lead, mercury, selenium, zinc, metals, organochlorines, ammonium, nitrates, fecal coli (FC), pH, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), sediment, nutrients, erosion, and turbidity in the 1990 305(b) Report, (see enclosed Surface Water Assessment, Colorado Main Stem, San Pedro, and Santa Cruz River Basins).

3. The Colorado River (HUC 15030104-001, 15030107-001), Gila River (HUC 15070201-003), San Pedro River (HUC 15050202-088 thru 003, 15050203-010), Sonoita Creek (HUC 15050301-013), Harshaw Creek (HUC 15050301-013off17S), Nogales Wash (15050301-011,010), and Santa Cruz River (HUC 15050301-001 thru 010) were evaluated and monitored as full, threatened, partial, and non attaining for arsenic, boron, cadmium, copper, chromium, lead, mercury, metals, ammonia, nitrogen, nitrates, nitrite, phosphorus, sulfates, fecal coli, pH, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), erosion, and turbidity in the 1991 205(j) Report, (see enclosed Surface Water Assessment, Colorado Main Stem, San Pedro, and Santa Cruz River Basins).

4. Colorado River (HUC 15030104-001 thru 013, 15030107-001 thru 003), Gila River (HUC 15070201-001 thru 003), San Pedro River (HUC 15050202-001 thru 008, 15050203-008 thru 012), Santa Cruz River (HUC 15050301-001 thru 010, 012, 15050303-006), Nogales Wash (HUC 15050301-011), Sonoita Creek (HUC 15050301-013), Medera Canyon Creek (HUC 15050301-006 off4) were evaluated and monitored as full, threatened, partial, and non attaining for arsenic, boron, cadmium, copper, cyanide, chromium, lead, mercury, selenium, zinc, metals, organochlorines, ammonia, sulfates, pesticides, fecal coli, pH, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Soluble Solids (SSS), Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), sediment, nutrients, phenols, flow, erosion, and turbidity in the 1992 305b Report (see enclosed Surface Water Assessment, Colorado Main Stem, San Pedro, and Santa Cruz River Basins).

A surface water hydrologic connection exists between the Colorado River and the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Continuation of JTF-6 Support Services Along the U.S.-Mexico Border (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California) via Colorado River, Gila River, Vamori Wash and unnamed washes by the tributary rule.

A surface water hydrologic connection exists between the San Pedro River and the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Continuation of JTF-6 Support Services Along the U.S.-Mexico Border (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California) via San Pedro River, Banning Creek, Greenbush Draw and unnamed washes by the tributary rule.

A surface water hydrologic connection exists between the Santa Cruz River and the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Continuation of JTF-6 Support Services Along the U.S.-Mexico Border (Texas,

New Mexico, Arizona, and California) via Santa Cruz River, Nogales Wash, Sonoita Creek, Medera Canyon, Harshaw Creek, Brawley Wash and unnamed washes by the tributary rule.

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality recommends that:

1. Where applicable the Management Agency and or Owner/Operator shall over-site any construction to ensure that discharges from the watershed or to all Waters of the State/Waters of the U.S. shall meet all applicable Water Quality Standards;

ADEQ-1. To date, no construction activities have resulted in discharges to waterbodies within Arizona. JTF-6 has and will continue to apply for NPDES and other applicable state permits, when required, prior to construction.

2. Best Management Practices should be implemented during and after all construction phases to protect watershed condition and riparian areas, to maintain adequate vegetative cover, and to minimize the discharge of sediment, petroleum, nutrients, bacteria and other pollutants to the Colorado River via the Colorado River, Gila River, Vamori Wash and unnamed washes; San Pedro river via San Pedro River, Banning Creek, Greenbush Draw and unnamed washes; Santa Cruz River via Santa Cruz River, Nogales Wash, Sonoita Creek, Medera Canyon, Harshaw Creek, Brawley Wash and unnamed washes; to all Waters of the State/Waters of the U.S.;

ADEQ-2. JTF-6 has and will continue to implement best management practices during its construction activities to ensure protection of watersheds and adjacent communities. These practices include avoidance, where practical, of riparian communities and installation of sediment fences, waterbars, and gabions. In addition, sanitary facilities and vehicle/equipment maintenance work areas are placed away from drainages to ameliorate potential contamination due to accidental spills.

3. Best Management Practices should be implemented to protect watershed condition and riparian areas from erosion due to prescribed burn;

ADEQ-3. JTF-6 has not and does not anticipate the use of prescribed burns in any of its support activities.

4. Best Management Practices should be implemented for construction activities for mechanical equipment to minimize ground disturbance;

ADEQ-4. As stated in the DPEIS, JTF-6 makes every practical attempt to minimize all ground disturbing activities. Measures implemented include, but are not limited to, use of previously disturbed areas and routes, restriction of vehicle traffic during terrain denial operations to established roads, installation of erosion control devices, and limiting the width of construction rights-of-way on fence and road construction projects.

5. A monitoring program should be implemented to evaluate the effectiveness of Best Management Practices in protecting watershed condition and Waters of the State;

ADEQ-5. Where applicable, JTF-6 will prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP) during the process of obtaining a Stormwater Discharge Permit. The PPP will ensure that Best Management Practices are implemented and that watersheds are protected.

6. Where applicable the Management Agency and or Owner/Operator shall demonstrate a knowledge of waste streams, permits and hazardous materials handling as well as indicate the destination of each hazardous waste being disposed off-site;

ADEQ-6. Waste POL is contained in appropriate containers and disposed of by licensed contractors through either the requesting LEA or JTF-6, if the LEA does not have an existing hazardous waste disposal contractor. Any asbestos contaminated materials (ACM) occurring within buildings to be demolished or renovated are collected and disposed of by the requesting LEA prior to participation by the JTF-6.

7. Public or semi-public water supply systems should be developed to comply with Public and Semi-Public Water Supply Systems Rules (enclosed);

ADEQ-7. JTF-6 specific mandate is to assist LEAs which are involved in drug control activities. As such, JTF-6 can and has constructed water supply facilities for LEAs, however, JTF-6 cannot, by law, construct or develop public or semi-public water supply systems.

8. All underground storage tanks must be registered with ADEQ. Contact Mr. Bruce Ijirigho at (602) 207-4315 with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Inspection and Compliance Unit, regarding assistance in registration;

ADEQ 8. JTF-6 does not require installation of USTs.

9. All solid wastes generated by the activity shall be transported to an ADEQ approved facility. Waste stored on site for more than 90 days, or will be treated or disposed of on-site, may require facility approval. Contact Ms. Mercedes Vidan at (602) 207-4117 with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Solid Waste Plan Review Unit, regarding assistance in applying for this permit;

ADEQ-9. All solid wastes generated during JTF-6 field operations are collected and disposed of by licensed contractors.

10. Sewage treatment facilities for human waste shall be planned and developed in such a manner to ensure protection of both surface and groundwater resources, an Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) may be required for such facilities. An Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) may be required. Contact Mr. Chuck Graf at (602) 207-4661 with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Aquifer Protection Program Section, regarding assistance in applying for this permit;

ADEQ-10. To date, only one septic facility has been constructed by JTF-6 and it is located in Deming, New Mexico. Any such systems would be constructed as a permanent appurtenant structure of another LEA facility such as a Border Patrol check station. All state and Federal construction and operation permits would be obtained prior to construction of the wastewater systems.

Comment		Response
11. Sanitary waste facilities provided during construction phases shall be planned and developed in such a manner to ensure protection of both surface and groundwater resources;	ADEQ-11.	Portable toilet facilities are provided by licensed contractors to participating units during JTF-6 field activities. Also, see Response NMED-1.
12. An Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) may be required. Contact Mr. Chuck Graf at (602) 207-4661 with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Aquifer Protection Program Section, regarding assistance in applying for this permit;	ADEQ-12.	See Response NMED-1.
13. As of October 1, 1992, a Clean Water Act, Section 402, NPDES Permit is required for all ground disturbing activities which exceed 5 acres in impact. Contact Mr. Robert Wilson at (602) 207-4574 with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality regarding assistance in applying for this federal permit;	ADEQ-13.	Thank you for your comment. JTF-6 is committed to full compliance with all Federal and state environmental regulations. Applicable permits will be obtained prior to initiation of construction activities.
14. A Clean Water Act, Section 404 Permit may be required for the discharge of dredged or fill material into the navigable waters. Contact Ms. Cindy Lester of the US Army Corp of Engineers at (602) 640-5385 regarding a 404 Permit application. In addition a Section 401 Certification may be required and can be obtained from ADEQ. Contact Mr. Jim Matt at (602) 207-4502 with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Engineering Review and Permits, for assistance in obtaining certification;	ADEQ-14.	See Response ADEQ-13, above.
15. Should prescribed burns be used it will require that air quality concerns and issues be addressed. Contact Mr. Peter Lahm at (602) 207-2356 with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Evaluation Unit, regarding assistance in applying for this permit; and	ADEQ-15.	JTF-6 has not and does not anticipate the use of prescribed burns in any of its support activities.
16. A.A.C. R18-11-109, Surface Water Quality Standards Rules must be complied with as set forth in Section G (enclosed).	ADEQ-16.	See Responses ADEQ-13 and NMED-1 above

Enclosed for your information and reference, please find a copy of A.A.C. R18-11-107/108/109, Surface Water Standards Rules. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality would appreciate receiving information on the progress of this project. Thank you for your cooperation, should you have any questions, please contact me at (602) 207-4535.

Sincerely,

Karl F. Meyer
Nonpoint Source Unit

Enclosures

cc: Don Shroyer, ADEQ
Larry Stephenson, ADEQ
Mike Hill, ADEQ
Kris Randall, ADEQ
Peter Jagow, ADEQ
Dan Salzler, ADEQ
Russ Smith, ADEQ

LTJTF6VIX

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May 12, 1994

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
ATTN: CESWF-PL-R (Mr. Eric Verwers)
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

RE: JTF-Six Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), DOD

Dear Mr. Verwers:

Thank you for sending us a copy of the PEIS for the Joint Task Force Six (JTF-6) activities along the U.S./Mexico border in Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas. Due to time constraints, I have not been able to review all of this document, but did look at those portions of the PEIS that apply to cultural resources in Arizona and have the following comments which are arranged sequentially by page number:

Page v of the preface indicates that cultural resources have incurred limited impacts due to construction activities and that there may be cumulative impacts to cultural resources as a result of increased traffic and maintenance activities. As you know, the federal agency is responsible under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for all direct and indirect effects to historic properties as a result of the federal undertaking. I believe that this responsibility should be specified in the PEIS and that the federal agency should acknowledge responsibility to mitigate any adverse effects to National Register eligible properties.

ASP-1. This section has been revised and restated in Section 4.7.2 of the FPEIS. Also, please see Response USDI-8.

I note that the the agency's activities include building demolition and building rehabilitation (pages 1-15 and 1-16). This section should specify that if historic buildings (i.e. over 50 years old) are involved, the agency will consult with the respective State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) regarding eligibility and effect pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.

ASP-2. This commitment has been included in Section 5.2.5 of the FPEIS.

Page 2-4 indicates that there could be cumulative impacts to cultural resources without mitigation. This statement implies that the agency would be out of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA. The agency is responsible to mitigate adverse impacts to National Register eligible cultural resources.

ASP-3. Please see Response ASP-1, above.

Page 3-24 (and page 6-3) implies that the agency will conduct activities on the Barry M. Goldwater Range. To date we have had no consultations about such planned activities and want to ensure that our office and other agencies (BLM, Marines and Air Force) are adequately consulted about JTF-6 activities on the Goldwater Range.

ASP-4. To date, there are no such plans to construct roads on Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range. The issue arose at the Tucson public scoping meeting and was, thus, identified as an issue on page 6-3 of the DPEIS. The discussions presented throughout Section 3 of the DPEIS are summaries of existing conditions occurring within the 50-mile corridor as presented in the 5 volume Environmental Baseline document.

Page 3-24 indicates that shrines might be encountered along the JTF-6 corridor in southern Arizona. If the agency believes that traditional cultural properties (TCPs) as defined in National Park Service Bulletin 38 may be within the project area, it should conduct an ethnographic survey and consult with appropriate Native American groups regarding the potential to impact TCPs.

Page 3-25 indicates that burials may be within the project area. If burials may be impacted by JTF-6 activities in Arizona, the agency will have to consult with appropriate Native Americans, develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with our office, and may have to comply with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Please also note the incorrect reference to NAGPRA in Table 2-2.

Page 4-27 refers to NRHP-quality sites. In order to be more consistent with the regulations, this should read NRHP-eligible sites. Here it is specified that most of the sites are avoided as a mitigation measure; site avoidance should perhaps be mentioned elsewhere in the PEIS. However, even the "limited impacts to a small number of sites" should be adequately mitigated through archaeological data recovery or HABS/HAER recordation.

Page 5-3 implies that archaeological survey and monitoring is being used to mitigate possible adverse effects. This statement should be clarified by stating that the archaeologists ensure that sites are avoided. Otherwise, survey and monitoring is not a mitigation measure. See also page 5-4; the same comments apply.

The Agency Distribution List has an incorrect reference for our office. The Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer is James W. Garrison and our address is 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Please also be advised that the agency has repeatedly misspelled the capitol of California!

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this document and look forward to continuing our consultations on JTF-6 projects in Arizona. We appreciate your continued cooperation with this office in complying with the historic preservation requirements for Federal undertakings. If you have any questions, please contact me at (602) 542-7137 or 542-4009.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Gasser
Compliance Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office

ASP-5. Although formal ethnographic surveys have not been performed as part of the cultural resource surveys conducted thus far for JTF-6 projects in Arizona, field crew members included members of the affected Native American nations. These informants did not express any concerns for impacts to traditional cultural properties (TCP). Nevertheless, the possibility remains that TCPs exist along the border and, therefore, formal ethnographic surveys will be performed for site specific projects as warranted under Federal guidelines.

ASP-6. Any burials encountered will result in immediate consultation as noted. Table 2-2 has been corrected.

ASP-7. "NRHP-quality" sites has been changed to "NRHP-eligible" sites in the FPEIS. The sites which have been impacted were mitigated through archeological data recovery. The only historic structure that has been impacted was located in New Mexico; mitigation was performed on this site.

ASP-8. Sections 5.1.5 and 5.2.5 have been revised in the FPEIS.

ASP-9. Thank you for your comment. Corrections have been made in the FPEIS.

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Arizona State Office
3707 N. 7th Street
P.O. Box 16563
Phoenix, Arizona 85011

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

1791 (931)

May 13, 1994

Mr. Eric Verwers
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Dear Mr. Verwers:

We have reviewed the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, JTF-6 Activities Along the U.S. - Mexico Border, and offer the following comment:

Page 3-23: first paragraph; last sentence should be revised to read: In addition, Congress in 1988 designated the San Pedro River from the U.S. Mexico border north to Benson, a Riparian National Conservation Area, to be managed "in a manner that conserves, protects, and enhances the riparian area and the aquatic, wildlife, archaeological, paleontological, scientific, cultural, educational, and recreational resources of the conservation area."

BLM-1. The FPEIS has been revised as suggested.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Archibald at (602) 650-0509.

Sincerely,

Herman L. Kast
Deputy State Director
Lands and Renewable Resources

6-29

United States Department of the Interior

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument
Route 1, Box 100
Ajo, Arizona 85321-9626

L7619

June 6, 1994

Memorandum

To: U.S. Army Engineer District, Fort Worth
Attention: CESWF-PL-RF (Verwers)

Through: General Superintendent, Southern Arizona Group

From: Superintendent, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

Subject: Comments on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) concerning the activities of Joint Task Force Six (JTF-6)

6-30

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the subject document. We also appreciated being included in both public and agency scoping meetings within the past year.

Our strongest and most abiding concern with respect to JTF-6 activities remains centered around engineering-related projects, particularly road building. The DPEIS document does not indicate specifically where new roads are going to be built over the next five-year planning period, so we can not comment on site-specific impacts. We do have reason to believe that project-related impacts to biological resources along the project corridor could be a great deal more substantial than what this document indicates. See comments below.

As we have suggested before, a road of any kind means, by definition, access. Benefits of a border road to drug interdiction, therefore, might be cancelled in the long run by the access it would provide to drug smugglers. I can assure you that new roads developed in relatively pristine areas such as that which characterizes portions of the project area will invite and encourage poaching of rare animals and plants, as well as assist theft and vandalism of cultural resources. Experience has shown that attempts to deny access to roads are, in the long run, futile.

Following are our specific comments:

Page 1-8, para. 2, sent. 12. States that LP/OP sites will be left with no litter. This has not been the case in the monument where LP/OP's have been manned intermittently during the past several years. Park employees have come across these sites and reported MRE containers and other litter from recent JTF-6 operations strewn about. One employee

NPS-1. One intent of the DPEIS was to publicly disclose the types of projects that JTF-6 has and are expected to perform and to provide some indication of the levels at which these types of projects will be conducted. However, as was indicated in the DPEIS, JTF-6 receives requests from various LEAs throughout the southwestern border states for a variety of projects. Since JTF-6 is not capable of identifying the needs of these LEAs over the next five years, it is impossible at present, to provide specific project locations.

NPS-2. The FPEIS has been revised to incorporate these potential impacts. The magnitude of such impacts, however, depend largely upon the law enforcement efforts of all the Federal agencies, including the National Park Service as well as the juxtaposition of the border roads to urban areas.

NPS-3. A commitment has been made in the FPEIS (Section 5) that after action reviews will be coordinated with appropriate land administration agency to ensure that sites are properly policed

recently filled a five-gallon container with such litter from a site in the Quitobaquito hills area of the monument.

Page 3-22, para. 2, sent. 2. The correct common name for the pupfish in Quitobaquito Pond is the Quitobaquito desert pupfish.

NPS-4. This change has been incorporated to the FPEIS.

Table 4-4. The estimates presented here of potential wildlife densities that would be (have been) displaced due to habitat loss from various proposed JTF-6 actions seem low. These estimates were based on figures derived by the U.S. Army as a part of an environmental assessment on the White Sands Missile Range, and can not be readily extrapolated to the entire affected environment. For example, in typical Sonoran Desertscrub plant communities (Brown and Lowe, 1980) which exist along approximately 200 miles of border land in southwest Arizona and southeast California, the figures presented in the table would be extremely low. In Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument lizards have densities of around 79 per acre (Lowe and Rosen, 1992), while the nocturnal rodent component alone (heteromyids and cricetids) of small mammal populations have densities of around 9 individuals per acre during dry years (Petryszyn and Russ, 1991), and 18 per acre during normal to wet years (Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1994).

NPS-5. This table has been revised to incorporate general population densities from other major biological provinces such as the Sonoran desert scrub community.

Table 4-4. Need to apply estimates of wildlife population loss to the entire project period. The estimates made in this table apply only to the period to date and do not consider the remaining five years of the project. In the supporting text Page 4-14, paragraph 1, the mixture of present tense and future tense verbs is confusing, but it also leads the reader to think that the numbers presented in the table represent estimates of wildlife population loss over the entire project period.

NPS-6. This table has been revised to illustrate estimated losses from previous and future projects.

Table 2-1. Summary matrix indicates that a maximum of 1,500 acres will be cleared over the next five years as a part of engineering functions, but page 4-30, paragraph 3, sentence 4, states that this acreage is expected to be 3,000.

NPS-7. Table 2-1 has been revised to reflect the corrected figure of 3,000 acres.

Thank you again for the opportunity to review the subject document. As a matter of record we stand opposed to any future road building or other engineering projects proposed by JTF-6 within the boundaries of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. Please contact Resources Management Specialist Jon Arnold on (602) 387-7662, extension 7112, if there are any questions on the above comments. Thank you.

Harold J. Smith
Superintendent

cc: Unit Leader, CPSU/UA
Jon Arnold, ORPI
Jim Barnett, ORPI

Brown, David E., and C.H. Lowe. 1980. Biotic Communities of the Southwest. USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. RM-78.

Lowe, C. H., and P.C. Rosen. 1992. Ecology of the Amphibians and Reptiles at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona. Contract CA 8012-1-0002, Final Report to USDI National Park Service, Western Regional Office, San Francisco. 195 pp.

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. 1994. Ecological Monitoring Program 1993 Annual Report, Draft.

Petryszyn, Y. and S. Russ. 1991. Nocturnal Rodent Population Densities and Distributions at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona. Contract PX 8000-7-0708, Final Report to USDI National Park Service, Western Regional Office, San Francisco. 76 pp.

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
YUMA DISTRICT OFFICE
YUMA RESOURCE AREA
3150 WINSOR AVENUE
YUMA, ARIZONA 85365

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

IN REPLY REFER TO
1782 (055)

May 31, 1994

U.S. Army Engineer District
ATTN: CESWF-PL-RE (Verwers)
Post Office Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Dear Mr. Verwers:

The Bureau of Land Management's Yuma District has reviewed the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Joint Task Force Six Activities along the U.S./Mexico border and offers the following comments:

Section 1:

To improve the reader's understanding of what to expect in the document, we suggest you consider bringing the scoping information from Section 6 forward to Section 1. In addition to the list of issues raised during the scoping process, it would be helpful to know the reasons for dropping certain issues from further consideration.

YUMA-1. Section 1 of the FPEIS has been revised to include a brief discussion of the remainder of the document. In addition, Section 6 has been revised to include identification of the areas within the document where issues are addressed. Since the overall format of the document generally follows that recommended by CEQ, we have elected to leave the document format intact.

Page 2-2, Table 2-1:

Beginning with this table and continuing in Sections 3 and 4, we believe the visual resources in the project area should be recognized and addressed. All Bureau of Land Management administered lands have been placed into Visual Resource Management Classes, each with its own management objectives. All proposed projects must meet these objectives.

YUMA-2. These tables have been revised to address potential impacts to visual resources.

Page 2-10, Section 2.4:

In the third paragraph, Yuma Proving Ground should read Yuma Proving Grounds.

YUMA-3. The change has been incorporated.

Page 2-12, Table 2-2:

We suggest rewording the sentence under Land Use Plans as follows: "All proposed JTF-6 activities will conform to appropriate land use plans." The Federal Land Policy and Management Act should also be added to the list of Acts.

YUMA-4. These changes have been incorporated.

Page 3-30, Section 3.4.3:

In the second paragraph, Maricopa and La Paz Counties and the Phoenix Metropolitan Area are all outside of the 50-mile corridor. Should La Paz County have been Pima County?

Page 4-15, Table 4-4.

What is the purpose of this table; what is its utility?

Page 4-25, Table 4.7:

The table seems incomplete without the major city listed for each county. The city of Yuma can be added to Yuma County.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. If you have any questions, please contact our Environmental Planner Dave Curtis at (602) 726-6300.

Sincerely,

Kent H. Biddulph

for Area Manager

Joy Gilbert

YUMA-5. This paragraph has been revised in the FPEIS to include Pima County. All or portions of each of the other counties are within the 50-mile corridor.

YUMA-6. The purpose of the table is to provide some quantification of the potential losses of non-game wildlife that have occurred as a result of JTF-6 projects requiring habitat alterations. The table has been revised in the FPEIS to include additional data specific to Sonoran Desert populations.

YUMA-7. The major cities within each selected county has been added to this table, as suggested.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
UNITED STATES SECTION

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Mr. William Fickel, Jr.
Chief, Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
ATTN: CESWF-PL-RE (Eric Verwers)
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Dear Mr. Fickel,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) for JTF-6 Activities Along the U.S.-Mexico Border (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California), dated April, 1994. The proposed action would continue the JTF-6 program in southwestern border states by providing operational, engineering and general support services to law enforcement agencies with drug interdiction responsibilities. We note that the lead agency in this effort is the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the cooperating agencies are JTF-6 and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The DPEIS addresses the cumulative environmental impacts of previous JTF-6 actions and generic types of environmental impacts that could result from JTF-6 activities along the border in the future. The U.S. Section is concerned that the DPEIS does not deal with the international nature of those parts of the study areas that adjoin Mexico. In this regard, we request you change Section 2.4, Relationship to Other Federal Projects, to reflect the cooperative efforts of the U.S. and Mexico in water resource planning, transboundary floodplain drainage and control, utilization of waters, and water quality preservation.

IBWC-1. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate additional discussion concerning the cooperative efforts of the IBWC.

The opportunities and impediments that the U.S. and Mexico experience due to treaties and agreements entrusted to the International Boundary and Water Commission should be addressed. You may also wish to list the pertinent U.S./Mexico boundary and water treaties for reference purposes. Finally, we would appreciate it if you would add to the pertinent hydrological and water quality sections a mention of joint U.S./Mexico water control, utilization, and water quality projects.

IBWC-2. This discussion is included in Section 2, Relationship to Other Federal Projects.

We continue to be interested in all JTF-6 Operations along the international boundary and look forward to the opportunity to review site specific environmental documentation for future proposed actions. The Department of State's Mexico Border Coordinator has requested

THE COMMONS, BUILDING C, SUITE 310 • 4171 N. MESA STREET • EL PASO, TEXAS 79902
(915) 534-6700 • (FTS) 570-6700

copies of this draft along with previously published supporting documents. I would appreciate it if you would send a set of the referenced document to:

Mr. Steve Gibson, Border Coordinator
Department of State
Office of Mexican Affairs
ARA/MEX, Rm. 4258 NS
Washington, D.C. 20520

Sincerely,

Conrad G. Keyes, Jr.
Principal Engineer, Planning

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Post Office Box 649
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

ER 94/362

June 9, 1994

OVERNIGHT FEDERAL EXPRESS

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
ATTN: CESWF-PL-R (Eric Verwers)
Post Office Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Dear Mr. Verwers:

The U.S. Department of the Interior has reviewed the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS), JTF-6 Activities Along the U.S./Mexico Border (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California). In this regard, the following comments are provided for your consideration and use during preparation of the final document.

6-36

GENERAL COMMENTS

The DPEIS for Joint Task Force-6 (JTF-6) activities is inadequate when addressing impacts to fish and wildlife resources and habitats. There is little, if any, discussion of the effects of road construction on future traffic patterns. Improving roads may result in increased traffic along those roads which could induce additional impacts to sensitive plant species and result in disturbance to wildlife species, especially nesting raptors. The DPEIS dismisses most biological impacts of road improvement and construction as either occurring in rights-of-way or not resulting in any impact because regrowth will occur within a year. The value of habitat will be lost during the period of vegetative regrowth. Furthermore, the newly established vegetation will most likely not be the same species composition that was present before the clearing. These impacts must be addressed in the final PEIS and mitigating measures, as appropriate, also need to be considered.

USDI-1. The roads upgraded/constructed by JTF-6 are gravel or dirt roads located mostly within remote locations. Consequently, traffic patterns will remain virtually unchanged. The potential of these new roads to increase access for drug smuggling and illegal poaching of plants and wildlife has been included in the FPEIS. In regards to the loss of vegetation along construction ROW, please see Responses ADEQ-4, NPS-2, and AGFD-17.

The DPEIS also fails to discuss the potential effects of the proposed project on specific endangered and threatened species of concern. In addition, further clarification of the assorted types of proposed development projects should be addressed in order to determine their potential impact on the Federally-listed species and their critical habitats. For example, many listed and candidate plant species occur within (and adjacent to) highway rights-of-way; therefore, specific activities and locations pertaining to road work need to be coordinated with a number of Bureaus of the Department of the Interior for review (addresses following). Previous road construction activities have demonstrated that Federally-listed plant species may be adversely impacted. Every precaution should be taken to avoid any accidental disturbance to these plant species or any other species that may be discovered to occur within the project area.

USDI-2. The PEIS is a programmatic document and, thus, is not designed to discuss specific impacts to specific project/locations. JTF-6 will address potential impacts to protected species relative to specific projects in subsequent, tiered NEPA documents, which will be coordinated with the appropriate state and Federal resource agencies. Impacts to protected species which have occurred thus far were addressed in Section 4 of the DPEIS. Also, please see Responses AGFD-19 and AGFD-22.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act requires that all Federal agencies consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to ensure that actions authorized, funded, or carried out by such agencies do not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed threatened or endangered species or adversely modify or destroy critical habitat of such species. It is the responsibility of the Federal action agency to determine if the proposed project may affect threatened or endangered species. If no effect is evident, no further consultation is needed; however, the FWS (addresses following) would appreciate the opportunity to review the criteria used to arrive at that determination.

USDI-3. JTF-6 has complied, and will continue to comply, with the Endangered Species Act. JTF-6 also commits to consulting with appropriate Federal and state resource agencies during the early planning process to ensure avoidance of impacts to protected species. The MOU, as stated in Section I of FPEIS, will specify that the LEA will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the project.

Concerning Federal agency coordination in regards to reviewing this DPEIS, the lead agency's status and role need to be clarified. Each agency is responsible for its own actions which "may affect" listed species. Close coordination with all of the Federal agencies that have regulatory mandates should be conducted through a documented procedure. Otherwise, there will continue to be confusion as to which agency is responsible for each individual aspect of the coordinated effort.

USDI-4. The role of the lead agency (INS) was described on page 1-6 of the DPEIS.

The range of proposed activities may affect many different habitat types of many different species. Sensitive or rare habitat communities, such as riparian areas or desert grasslands, are of particular concern. These areas may be adversely impacted by any of the proposed activities that involve earth moving. Helicopter landing pads may also result in disturbance to certain wildlife species, especially nesting raptors and other migratory birds. The DPEIS should address the proposed project's impacts to vegetation and brush habitats. Special consideration should be given to areas with dense brush since brush habitat supports a variety of unique wildlife. For example, the endangered ocelot and jaguarundi are closely associated with thick brush habitat in south Texas. Various species of wildlife also use brush for shelter, hunting areas and as protected corridors for travel. Many migratory bird species nest in brush understory. Impacts to brush habitat that occur during the nesting season (March to August) may result in non-compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

USDI-5. Since the project area spans four different states, many different habitats will be affected, however, JTF-6 makes every attempt practical to identify and avoid unique or environmentally sensitive communities. Impacts to wildlife habitats were discussed throughout Section 4 of the DPEIS.

We recognize the programmatic nature of the DPEIS and, as such, until site-specific activity is proposed it is difficult to predict and quantify resultant environmental impact. In this regard, we want to emphasize the importance of conducting pre-construction surveys for any activity that may impact: (1) Federally-listed threatened or endangered animal or plant species, National wildlife refuge units administered by the FWS, or other fish and wildlife resources or their supporting habitats; (2) National park units administered by the National Park Service (NPS); (3) public lands owned by the Federal Government and administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM); (4) natural resources protected by treaty or other authority pertaining to Native American tribes or located on lands held by the United States in trust and administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for native American tribes, communities or individuals (addresses for these Bureaus follow); or (5) cultural resources or historic properties. The purpose of initiating pre-construction surveys would be to identify site-specific actions with a view toward preventing or mitigating adverse environmental impact. Pre-construction surveys would also prevent committing irretrievable resources thereby insuring that any proposed action does not jeopardize Federally-listed threatened or endangered species.

USDI-6. JTF-6 not only conducts pre-construction surveys for protected species, unique habitats and cultural resources, but also provides professional monitors during substantial construction projects. JTF-6 commits to contacting all land administrators prior to performing such surveys on public or private lands.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

1.0 Introduction (Page 1-1)

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) indicates in Section 1502.21, Incorporation by Reference, that a copy of all documents referenced need not be included within the DPEIS. However, given the size and complexity of JTF-6 operations, the purpose and role of JTF-6 in International border activities and its operational boundaries would be clarified by providing a copy of the relevant sections of the National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 101-510, as amended) in an Appendix to the final PEIS. The FWS has made this request numerous times on Environmental Assessments (EA) provided on JTF-6 actions throughout Arizona. Although every EA has stated that JTF-6 was established in November 1989, no information has been provided to date as to the overall responsibilities and limitations of the agency determined at its establishment.

USDI-7. A copy of the National Defense Authorization Act has been appended to the FPEIS. The history, role and limitations of JTF-6 were discussed in Section 1 of the DPEIS.

1.1 Background (Pages 1-1 through 1-7)

Page 1-5, first paragraph indicates that ". . . JTF-6 maintains tactical command and control of the units conducting the project through a programmed array of procedural and active measures." The FWS has, on past projects encountered difficulties in determining which agency is responsible for actions taken in the field. We interpret this sentence to mean that, for all future activities, the Department of Defense (DOD) through JTF-6 will be the Federal agency held responsible for actions taken by ". . . units conducting the project. . ."

USDI-8. JTF-6 is the responsible agency for compliance with NEPA and other state and Federal regulations during the conduct of its projects. Assistance with environmental regulations required prior to initiation of a project (eg., NPDES) is usually received from the requesting LEA. However, Section 5 of the FPEIS has been revised to include a commitment to encourage the requesting LEA to assume the lead agency role, with JTF-6 serving as a cooperating or co-lead agency, on subsequent EAs and EISs. This will identify the requesting LEA as the party responsible for the proper conduct of the operation as well as any mitigation measures specified in the EA/EIS. The requesting LEA will also be responsible for any potential impacts associated with maintenance activities once the operation is completed.

Page 1-5 indicates the military units accepting JTF-6 projects will receive a copy of the NEPA document during briefings prior to the initiation of the project to "ensure that the project personnel are aware of sensitive issues and resources, as well as any mitigative measures that are to be implemented." We believe that providing a copy of the FPEIS and the decision document will provide such information; however, since information regarding sensitive resources and mitigation are scattered throughout the document, the information will not be in a form easily assimilated by on-the-ground crews. We recommend that JTF-6 prepare a more usable document that gives specific information regarding resources of concern. Mitigation to avoid or minimize adverse impacts should also be described and commitments to fulfill proposed mitigation should be obtained from agencies planning to use the facility.

USDI-9. Providing a copy of the programmatic document would do very little to ensure potential project-specific impacts are ameliorated. Consequently, site or project-specific NEPA documents are prepared and provided to the participating military units and the supported LEA. The NEPA document's FONSI or ROD, which specifies the mitigation plan to be implemented for each project, will be incorporated to the MOU.

Page 1-5 also mentions "after-action reviews" that would ensure each operation is successfully completed. The final PEIS should include information on the group responsible for accomplishing the reviews, where the review information will be maintained, who will receive copies of the review information and the specific information expected to be gathered by reviews.

USDI-10. Please see Response NPS-3.

Page 1-6 states that the DPEIS is intended to identify ". . . those types of projects routinely conducted by JTF-6 which would require an EA or Records of Environmental Consideration to be tiered to this DPEIS or which may fall within a categorical exclusion (CATEX) classification as defined by DOD Directive 6501." At a multi-agency meeting in December 1993, the issue of using CATEX's was raised. At that meeting, FWS

personnel expressed their concern that the list of CATEX's could not be condoned until they were able to review the specific activities to be included on that list. Because of the history of problems with activities and resultant impacts and damage to resources that has occurred in Arizona once troops are actually in the field, we strongly recommend that any action which involves placement of troops in the field and attendant activity not be on the CATEX list.

Also, we recommend guidelines be formed that would discuss how to determine whether adverse impacts would result from a project. Specifically, these guidelines would address how to determine the potential for each Law Enforcement Agency's (LEA) action to generate not only direct impacts, but indirect and cumulative impacts as well.

1.4. 1 Operational Support Services, Listening Post/Observation Post (LP/OP) (Page 1-8 through 1-12)

Page 1-8 discusses the use of JTF-6 personnel for observation or reconnaissance operations in areas having high potential for illegal drug smuggling activities. The text states that personnel could use 4-wheel drive vehicles to access the LP/OP sites, if "roads/jeep trails" exist. Although the text also states that "motor vehicles remain on established roads. . . and are not driven cross-country", we are concerned about definition. We recommend that the final PEIS define "established roads" to mean those having been sufficiently traveled to have kept vegetation cropped to a level or width sufficient for vehicle passage without significant damage to the vegetation and to have left dual tracks void of vegetation.

This section also states that LP/OP sites would be left intact, with no litter or damage to vegetation "to the maximum extent practicable." This has, historically, not always occurred. For instance, listening/observation posts and bivouac sites were established and utilized as part of operational support services within Coronado National Memorial, a unit administered by the NPS. Some of the operations exceeded scheduled time frames and use of the bivouac sites impacted the natural environment (vegetation and soil disturbance) in an area where recovery of these resources has been difficult. We recommend that guidelines be established on how much damage to vegetation is acceptable before mitigation measures, such as reseeding of grass, are required. When an LEA requests that an LP/OP site be established as a permanent site, it is expected that the site will be reviewed by trained personnel (e.g., biologist and cultural resources expert) for potential impacts to sensitive resources. The document should reflect a commitment to these reviews. In addition, each LEA allowed to use the site after construction should be informed of any restrictions as a condition of use/construction.

Since observational posts typically employ up to 30 military personnel for 5 to 30 days, what provision has been made for garbage and solid waste management? Also, how close are pollution-vulnerable water bodies (i.e. streams, rivers, lakes, etc.) to the LP/OP locations? This type of concern also applies to any other situation where an aggregation of personnel is planned (such as in Section 1.4.4 Terrain Denial activities). These potential impacts should be recognized in the final document and identified and analyzed in site-specific environmental analyses.

USDI-11. Field exercises are not included as a CATEX, unless the activity is restricted to an established training range such as weapons training at a firing range.

USDI-12. Potential impacts of each operation would be addressed in project-specific NEPA documents tiered to the programmatic EIS. Guidelines to assess potential impacts would be those that are outlined in the CEQ Regulations for Implementing NEPA and DOD Directive 6051.

USDI-13. This definition of established roads has been incorporated to the FPEIS

USDI-14. Please see Response NPS-3.

USDI-15. Please see Responses AGFD-19, USDI-6, and USDI-12.

USDI-16. A statement regarding collection and disposal of solid waste has been added to the [illegible]

1.4.3 Ground Sensors (Page 1-12)

Further description of the specifications of the ground sensors would be beneficial in order to determine the amount of disturbance involved with the installation, use and maintenance of these devices.

USDI-17. Additional information concerning the ground sensors (eg. numbers per operation, wiring, etc.) has been incorporated.

1.4.4 Terrain Denial (Page 1-12 through 1-13)

This section indicates that vegetation will not be ". . . removed, cut or otherwise cleared" during terrain denial exercises. However, with the anticipated number of troops ranging from 60 to 600 for a period of 30 days, vegetation trampling is a concern, particularly if the area should be used during critical growing seasons or if the same area will be used repeatedly over several years. Because trampling of vegetation may lead to decreased habitat values and increased erosion potential, this activity should be considered as a potential adverse impact of proposed actions and analyzed in Chapter 4.0, Environmental Consequences. We support the use of professional biologists to ensure that no significant impacts occur to natural resources and recommend these biologists maintain contacts within each natural resource agency to effectuate necessary coordination.

USDI-18. Trampling of vegetation during terrain denial and ground patrol operations was discussed in Section 4 of the DPEIS.

USDI-19. Thank you for your comment.

1.5.1 Engineering Services, Road Repair, Bridges, Culverts, Gabions (Page 1-14)

This section indicates that up to 300 miles of roads per year are expected to need maintenance work. It is also indicated that JTF-6 will primarily be involved with upgrading roads to 20-feet wide and installing bridges, culverts, gabions, water bars, and other drainage or erosion control structures as necessary, and that impacts to vegetation will be minimal under this type activity. Chapter 4.0 must address the cumulative adverse impacts of repeated actions of this type. In Arizona, for example, the main road along the International Border has numerous culvert sites, installed by JTF-6 personnel, which have subsequently eroded. With each repair, vegetation along washes has been further damaged or removed. Should this continue indefinitely, erosion will continue to increase while wildlife habitat values decrease along washes in the area. This section also indicates that drainage and erosion control structures are designed and emplaced so adverse effects to biological resources are minimized. If JTF-6 should continue with road maintenance as they have in the past, the cumulative effects of repeated operations at the same sites should be addressed in Chapter 4.0.

USDI-20. Cumulative impacts are discussed throughout Section 4 and summarized in Section 4.8 of the DPEIS. However, this section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate cumulative effects of maintenance activities.

The DPEIS should include any information supporting the statement regarding original road width. If vegetation has regenerated to the point that these roads are now typically less than 10 feet wide then the potential for Federally-listed threatened and endangered species is present. Each road repair project must be reviewed to determine potential effect to listed species, including indirect effects such as those occurring downstream, downslope or due to soil compaction. In addition, any wetland areas associated with stream crossings should be protected from impact. The Bureaus of the Department of the Interior at the following addresses are available to discuss avoidance or mitigation measures on a case-by-case basis.

USDI-21. Please see Responses AGFD-19, USDI-2, USDI-6 and USDI-12.

We are also concerned about increased accessibility resultant from engineering support activities such as road construction and maintenance. New and improved roads will make areas previously inaccessible by motor vehicle more easily accessible, introducing visitor use in National park units, National wildlife refuges, public lands, etc., where there are no means of accommodating such use. On the other hand, enhanced vehicle access also results in increased opportunities for illegal activities such as trespass, disturbance/removal of cultural and natural resources, dumping, etc., and possibly contributing to the very activities that the JTF-6 operations are intended to control. These impacts should be recognized and analyzed in Chapter 4.0 Environmental Consequences.

USDI-22. Please see Response NPS-2.

1.5.2 Firing Range Construction (Page 1-14)

This section indicates that new firing ranges have been constructed, typically encompassing 5 to 10 acres. However, recent review of a newly constructed project near Bouse, Arizona revealed construction of a shooting facility on 78.7 acres of land. This project may have been too recent to be included in the draft DPEIS, however, this information should be included in the final PEIS and impacts fully analyzed based on the normal acreage disturbed.

USDI-23. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate a description of the maximum size of firing ranges expected to be constructed, although most typically encompass five to 10 acres. Although the entire training facility indicated in your comment encompasses 84 acres, the weapons training range encompassed less than 10 acres.

We support the use of plastic sheeting to alleviate the potential for groundwater contamination from lead leaching; we recommend guidelines be established to advise constructing units of methods to ensure proper drainage and treatment of drainage water.

USDI-24. Weapons training ranges are constructed to meet specifications of the requesting LEA's design criteria. JTF-6 will commit to implementing best management practices in the design and construction of these facilities to ensure protection of watersheds, as well as overall environmental soundness.

1.5.4 Helipads (Page 1-15)

Due to the varied disturbances involved in helicopter operations (such as prop wash and fueling wastes), preconstruction surveys must be performed in order to reduce impacts to listed species and to insure no disturbances to important habitats.

USDI-25. Please see Response USDI-6.

Also, we recommend guidelines be established to advise constructing units of proper design of helipads that contain fuel stations to avoid contamination in the event of a fuel or other hazardous substance spill. Each helipad with fuel stations must be operated in compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and appropriate contingencies provided in the event of a release.

USDI-26. JTF-6 does not anticipate construction of refueling stations associated with helipads.

1.5.5 Communication Towers (Page 1-15)

This section indicates the construction of communication towers is within the purview of engineering services activities. Since anchor cables may cause migratory bird mortality through collision we recommend each tower be reviewed for potential impacts to these sensitive species. In addition, any powerlines constructed to supply electricity to these towers or any other facility should be designed to avoid impacts to raptors through electrocution.

USDI-27. These potential effects have been incorporated to Section 4.5.2 of the FPEIS. Also, please see Responses USDI-2 and USDI-12.

1.5.9 Lighting (Pages 1-16 through 1-17)

Bright lights often attract migratory birds during inclement weather, increasing hazard of collision with structures located near the lights, such as unlit towers, anchor lines, or transmission wires. Plans to provide lighting in previously unlit areas should be fully evaluated and include methods of minimizing these impacts. In addition, locations of lighting should take into consideration important habitats and wildlife corridors in order not to alter wildlife behavior and/or movements.

USDI-28. Please see Response USDI-27.

1.5.10 Boat Ramps (Page 1-17)

The placement of boat ramps and related boating activities can have significant impacts on Federally-listed threatened and endangered species. In this regard, the FWS must be involved in the process of selecting boat ramp sites.

USDI-29. This referenced paragraph of the DPEIS also stated "JTF-6 closely coordinates with the pertinent agency(s) in the designing and placement of boat ramps".

1.6 General Support Services (Page 1-18)

This section indicates that teams are used to train LEA personnel on such subjects as marksmanship, data processing, emergency medical procedures, leadership skills, and rapid rappelling techniques. These training sessions also provide an excellent forum to inform LEA personnel of general types of site restrictions and mitigation measures.

USDI-30. Thank you for your comment. The LEA personnel will receive a copy of the NEPA document and associated FONSI/ROD, which will identify site restrictions and mitigation measures.

2.0 Proposed Action and Alternatives (Page 2-1)

This section lists three alternatives. While we are supportive of the efforts to decrease illegal drug smuggling activities along the border, the effectiveness of actions taken under JTF-6 are often unclear when activities are proposed for central or northern Arizona. The DPEIS addresses only those resources within the 50 mile area north of the International Border. In Arizona, 17 JTF-6 actions were proposed for Fiscal Year 1995; only four of these were to occur within the 50-mile area addressed as the primary operations area in the DPEIS. The Proposed Action and other alternatives under consideration needs to be expanded to address all geographic areas proposed for JTF-6 activity and Chapter 4.0 appropriately modified to analyze the environmental consequences of these actions.

USDI-31. As discussed in Section 1 of the DPEIS, JTF-6 has authority to conduct operations throughout the southwestern United States; however, the vast majority of the operations are performed within the 50-mile corridor and, thus, it was decided that Programmatic EIS would focus upon the corridor as the project area. Other site-specific NEPA documents will be prepared, as appropriate for projects outside of the 50-mile corridor.

2.1.1 Operational Support Services (Page 2-5)

This section indicates that for ground patrol operations, several alternatives are considered. JTF-6 may want to consider limiting the size of the area to be covered by ground patrols in those areas where there are threatened or endangered plant concerns or other sensitive habitats present. Early project planning coordination with the NPS, BLM, BIA and FWS (addresses following) will assist in identifying these species and habitats.

USDI-32. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate size of area to be patrolled as an alternative.

2.4 Relationship to Other Federal Projects (Page 2-8)

In reference to the statement about the JTF-6's program complementing the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) and Mexico's SEDUE program efforts by providing additional information concerning environmentally sensitive areas and other pertinent data, we question how this information can be protected to prevent its misuse by non-JTF-6 parties. Please contact the FWS (addresses following) so we may work together to develop a mechanism to prevent misuse of environmentally sensitive and, particularly, Endangered Species Act data.

USDI-33. JTF-6 provides sensitive information to other cooperating agencies only on a need to know basis in order to protect environmentally sensitive resources. Such information is not provided to the general public (as required by law for some resources).

Table 2-2 (Page 2-12)

Footnotes to this table indicate that full compliance with the Endangered Species Act and NEPA would be obtained when coordination with the FWS regarding Federally-listed species ends and when the final EIS is filed with the EPA. We offer for your consideration that full compliance with either of these statutes would not be obtained until, under the Endangered Species Act, all reasonable and prudent alternatives to a specific action are developed and after all preventative and mitigating measures or other commitments are completed to the satisfaction of any agency with regulatory or management authority over resources of concern.

USDI-34. This section has been revised in the FPEIS.

3.0 Affected Environment (Page 3-1)

This section indicates that baseline conditions of the human and natural environment along the International Border have been documented in a five-volume set of "Environmental Baseline" documents. Paragraph 2 on this page incorporates these documents by reference. Since lists of Federally-listed threatened and endangered species change frequently, we recommend the baseline documents be reviewed for new listings or proposals to list, before finalization. In addition, we recommend use of the document be restricted to that of general guidance to LEA's or constructing units and they be required to update species lists before initiation of project construction.

USDI-35. Project-specific NEPA documents will address the most current listing of protected species through coordination with the appropriate Federal and state agencies. Consequently, there is no need to update the Environmental Baseline documents.

3.1.8 Unique or Sensitive Areas (Page 3-5)

As mentioned under the General Comments, south Texas brush habitats should be included as another type of unique or sensitive area.

USDI-36. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate Southern Texas Tamaulipan brush habitats as sensitive areas.

3.2.7 Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical/Sensitive Habitats (Page 3-10)

Only five percent of the original dense Southern Texas Tamaulipan brush habitat remains. This habitat should be listed as important/sensitive. The Laguna Madre ecosystem, with its hypersaline lagoon and concentration of endangered and important sport and commercial species, comprises another set of sensitive habitats and should also be included in this Section.

USDI-37. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate the brush habitat and Laguna Madre ecosystem as sensitive areas.

3.3.7 Affected Environment, New Mexico Land Border (Volume 3), Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical/Sensitive Habitat (Pages 3-17 through 3-18)

The FWS is currently preparing an EIS for efforts to reintroduce the Mexican wolf to portions of its native habitat in the southwestern United States. Early site-specific planning with the FWS (addresses following) will ensure that JTF-6 activities and this proposal are fully coordinated.

USDI-38. Thank you for your comment.

3.4.7 Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical/Sensitive Habitats (Page 3-22)

This section indicates that the Colorado River north from Imperial Dam has been proposed as critical habitat for the razorback sucker. This proposal was finalized in the Federal Register on March 21, 1994 (59 FR 13374).

USDI-39. This statement has been revised to reflect the final listing.

3.4.9 Socioeconomic Resources (Page 3-23)

This section indicates that "In general the land area is military owned and very rural. . ." A large amount of land in this area is owned by the Federal government and managed by various Bureaus of this Department as National wildlife refuges (FWS), National Monuments (National Park Service) and public lands (Bureau of Land Management) and by the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation, or is administered by the Coronado National Forest. In addition, significant portions are either owned by the State or private landowners. We recommend that this paragraph be modified to more accurately reflect current land ownership patterns.

USDI-40. This section has been revised accordingly in the FPEIS.

4.0 Environmental Consequences (Pages 4-1 through 4-31)

Several statements throughout this section indicate that disturbed areas would be expected to revegetate within 1 year. Disturbance on certain soil types could lead to such impacts as water or wind erosion, downslope, downwind, or downstream sedimentation and water quality degradation. It is our recommendation that any areas disturbed through JTF-6 activities be restored to undisturbed conditions and that the final PEIS contain a mitigation commitment to such restoration including the use of native seed sources to restore vegetation.

USDI-41. Please see Response AGFD-17.

4.1 Soils (Pages 4-1 through 4-5)

This section indicates that the approximately 110 acres of land being altered is insignificant when considered as a part of the total habitat available. The criteria defining significance under regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality include such factors as unique characteristics of an impacted area, impacts to Federally-listed threatened or endangered species, unique or unknown risks, establishment of precedence, impacts to cultural resources, or violation of State or local law. We question the validity of the general statement that impacts from road construction would not be significant until an evaluation is conducted that compares impacts to the above specific criteria and the results of this analysis are incorporated in the final document.

USDI-42. Please see Response AGFD-4.

4.1.1 Operational Support Actions (Pages 4-3 through 4-3)

The last paragraph on page 4-3 indicates that terrain denial exercises have involved 400 troops covering 1,350 square miles, resulting in a personnel density of less than one person per square mile. We believe that this statistic is misleading in that the majority of the troops would not be evenly dispersed throughout the entire area.

USDI-43. This statement has been deleted from the FPEIS.

4.1.2 Engineering Support Services (Page 4-4)

This section indicates that road work occurs primarily in areas that were previously disturbed. The DPEIS should recognize the fact that, while an area may have been previously disturbed, it may currently be in a relatively erosion-free state. The fact that an area is previously disturbed does not necessarily mean that it does not have habitat values and these values should not be considered in determining effects of a proposed action. The condition of the area prior to the JTF-6 action should be considered its baseline condition and the determination of potentially increased erosion or loss of habitat values made from that baseline.

USDI-44. Please see Responses ADEQ-4 and AGFD-4.

The third paragraph on this page indicates that degraded road conditions such as those caused by severe erosion is one of the reasons that LEA's request the services of JTF-6. As previously discussed, we request a more thorough evaluation of alternatives on erosion control and drainage options. The FWS has raised this concern on numerous EA's completed for past projects in the International Border area.

USDI-45. Please see Response USDI-20.

The final paragraph on this page indicates that a total of 81 acres of soil has been disturbed for new firing ranges. This total does not encompass the Bouse, Arizona firing range project. As discussed previously, the draft DPEIS may have been completed prior to having this information. We recommend that this figure be updated in the final PEIS.

USDI-46. Please see Response USDI-23.

4.5.1.1 Operational Support (Page 4-11)

We agree with the statement in paragraph three of this page that "Ground patrol and terrain denial operations could affect vegetation communities depending upon the size, duration, and season of operation." However, we request that consideration of future JTF-6 activities be given toward the repetitive nature of these activities. Repeated trampling of vegetation in a given area for several years could result in substantially greater impact than that associated with a site used only once for an activity. The final PEIS should address cumulative effects of these activities.

USDI-47. The mitigation section of the FPEIS (Section 5) has been revised to incorporate rotation of TOC and other ground disturbing activities during terrain denial and ground patrol operations that are to be conducted within the same general vicinity on a routine or repetitive basis.

Plans for new road construction should include coordination with resource agencies. Any environmental documentation of road construction should include discussions of indirect impacts, including downstream or downslope erosion and/or sedimentation impacts and providing access to areas previously considered remote and/or inaccessible, as well as direct and cumulative impacts.

USDI-48. Please see Responses USDI-2, USDI-6, USDI-12, AGFD-6, AGFD-8, AGFD-19 and AGFD-22.

4.5.2 Fish and Wildlife Resources (Page 4-13)

This section contains a statement that no impacts to fish have been identified from JTF-6 actions. However, Section 1.5.1 indicates that "bridges, culverts, gabions, water bars, and other drainage or erosion control structures" are routinely designed and emplaced in JTF-6 construction activities. We recommend a review of activities to evaluate indirect impacts to fish resources, specifically those associated with water quality degradation due to erosion and sedimentation.

USDI-49. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate potential indirect effects associated with JTF-6 construction activities.

4.5.3.2 Engineering Support Services (Page 4-16)

The second paragraph of this section indicates that a specimen of Tumamoc globeberry (*Tumamoca macdougalii*) was damaged during road repair activities on the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation in Arizona, but that the plant was delisted within a few months after the incident. The specimen was damaged on September 30, 1992, and the plant was delisted on June 18, 1993. During that time, JTF-6 failed to initiate Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation on the action. On June 21, 1993, the FWS provided written correspondence to JTF-6 and the Corps of Engineers recommending that, because of the delisting of this species, this file be closed. However, it should be noted that the FWS considers it imperative that JTF-6 complete consultation prior to implementing projects so that they remain in compliance with the Endangered Species Act should adverse effects occur. Requests for such a consultation were initiated for the Tohono O'odham road repair project by the FWS in November 1992, but consultation was never initiated. While this issue has been resolved through delisting, the FWS is concerned that the draft PEIS does not recognize the proper procedures to be followed in future projects of this nature.

USDI-50. JTF-6 and the Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District immediately reported the damage to the globeberry specimen to the FWS and followed their recommendations for the steps to ameliorate the damage. The species was delisted on 18 June 1993.

The last paragraph on this page mentions an on-going formal consultation with the FWS regarding impacts to two listed plant species from road repair activities near Marathon, Texas. Many of the proposed activities may affect listed and candidate species. Since this document is very general in nature and does not describe each proposed action or location of actions, each proposed activity needs to be analyzed for potential impacts to endangered or threatened species before that action proceeds.

USDI-51. Please see Responses USDI-2, USDI-6, USDI-12, AGFD-6, AGFD-8, AGFD-19, and AGFD-22.

4.8.2 Summary of Cumulative Impacts, Engineering Support Services (Pages 4-30 through 4-31)

This section indicates that about 2,400 acres have been cleared so far by JTF-6 activities. In addition, about 3,000 additional acres would be cleared within the next 5 years. As discussed above under Section 4.1, criteria defining significance include several factors that cannot be evaluated until site specific planning is accomplished. Until such evaluations are complete, we cannot concur that cumulative impacts of JTF-6 activities would not be significant.

USDI-52. Thank you for your comment. Also, please see Response USDI-2.

5.1.1 Mitigation, Operational Support Services (Pages 5-2 through 5-3)

This section contains description indicating that vehicular traffic would remain on established roads "to the maximum extent practicable." This statement appears to contradict statements in Section 1.4 that indicate vehicles would remain on established roads or other disturbed areas and would not be driven cross-country. Any activity that would involve off-road travel should be evaluated to determine potential for impacts to sensitive plant and animal species. We recommend that the final PEIS contain commitments to survey areas of impact if sensitive species may occur. If species are found to occur, the professional biologists referenced in this Section can work with natural resource agencies to avoid impacts through off-limit zones. If impacts to Federally-listed species are unavoidable, the final PEIS should contain a commitment to the initiation of formal consultation as provided for under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

USDI-53. The statement made is "off-road vehicular traffic will be prohibited except for egress and ingress to bivouac or TOC sites that cannot be located within previously disturbed areas". TOC and bivouac sites as well as access to them will be surveyed for environmentally sensitive resources. Section 1.4 states that LP/OP units will travel to the site by foot or helicopter insertion if roads or jeep trails are not available. A description of established roads and/or jeep trails has been added to this section of the FPEIS for clarification.

USDI-54. Please see Response AGFD-22.

5.2. Engineering Support Services (Pages 5-3 through 5-4)

Additional mitigating measures could be included in this Section by indicating that, wherever possible, JTF-6 actions will seek to minimize vegetation loss by using the following methods:

- trim vegetation away from roadsides rather than removing the entire plant;
- require heavy equipment to use identified road pullouts during road maintenance activities to avoid further disturbance of vegetation; and
- consider revegetation efforts where they would be beneficial in mitigating adverse effects of projects such as increased erosion potential or vegetation loss.

USDI-55. This section has been revised in the FPEIS to incorporate these items as potential mitigation measures.

5.2.1 Engineering Support Services, Soils (Page 5-3)

The DPEIS states that borrow materials would be obtained from established borrow pits or "approved on-site sources." The approval process for these sources should be defined to include evaluation of potential impacts to natural resources.

USDI-56. This section has been revised in the FPEIS.

5.2.4 Biological Resources (Page 5-4)

This Section indicates that professional biologists will be utilized to survey construction sites early in the planning process. We recommend that a commitment be made in the final PEIS that JTF-6 will consult with resource agency personnel early in the planning process.

USDI-57. This section has been revised in the FPEIS.

The second paragraph in this Section indicates that project specific mitigation plans may be required for projects with potential to impact protected species or other environmentally sensitive resources. We recommend that this paragraph be modified to state that JTF-6 will consider mitigation where substantial impacts to wildlife habitat may occur. Mitigation should not be limited to protected species or sensitive resources. The final PEIS should recognize that the correct sequencing of any mitigation analysis is minimization, avoidance, and then mitigation. Mitigation plans should be developed prior to initiation of construction activities.

USDI-58. This section has been revised in the FPEIS.

6.0 Public Involvement

Neither this Section nor Appendix B., indicate that the DPEIS was distributed to Native American tribes for review and comment. If not previously done, we recommend that this document be provided to affected Native American tribes and coordination initiated to ensure that the Federal government operates within a government-to-government relationship with Federally recognized Native American tribes. We also recommend that Chapter 4.0 Environmental Consequences be expanded to assess the impact of the proposed actions, projects and activities, elucidated in the DPEIS, on tribal trust resources and to insure that tribal government rights and concerns are considered during the development of the proposed actions.

USDI-59. Fifteen copies of the DPEIS were sent to the USDI for distribution to the various Bureaus under the Department's jurisdiction, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The specific tribes were inadvertently omitted, with the exception of those representatives who attended any of the scoping meetings. The Councils of each affected tribes will be placed on the mailing list for the FPEIS.

USDI-60. This section has been revised in the FPEIS.

SUMMARY

To reiterate, we recognize the programmatic nature of this document. However, in order to fully characterize the primary, secondary and cumulative impacts attendant with site-specific activities and to develop site-specific preventive or mitigative measures we request that pre-construction surveys be conducted for any activity that may affect lands, natural, cultural or historic resources under the administration of the Department of the Interior. In this regard, for activities conducted in Texas please contact:

USDI-61. Please see Responses USDI-2, USDI-6, USDI-12, AGFD-6, and AGFD-19.

State Administrator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (ES)
300 East 8th Street, Room G-167
Federal Building
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 482-5454

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0728
Phone: (505) 988-6859

Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 368
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005
Phone: (405) 247-6673

For activities conducted in New Mexico contact:

State Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (ES)
3530 Pan American Freeway, Suite D
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107
Phone: (505) 883-7877

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 728
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Bureau of Land Management
1474 Rodeo Road
P.O. Box 27115
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115
Phone: (505) 438-7439

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P.O. Box 26567
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-6567
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For activities conducted in Arizona contact:

State Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (ES)
3616 West Thomas Road, Suite A
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600 Harrison Street, Suite 600
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2730 Loker Avenue, West
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2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825
Phone: (916) 978-4743

Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2550
Sacramento, California 95825
Phone: (916) 978-4691

We appreciate the opportunity to review this document and provide these comments. We trust these comments will be of assistance during preparation of the Final PEIS and decision document.

Sincerely,

Glenn Sekavec

Glenn B. Sekavec
Regional Environmental Officer

7.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

7.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

The following people were primarily responsible for preparing this Environmental Impact Statement

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Ms. Vikki Kingslien	INS (Lead agency)	Master Planning	24 years, GSA/INS, real property and facility management and planning	INS Study Manager
LTC. Mark DeHarde	JTF-6 (Cooperating Agency)	Civil Engineering/ Planning	20 years military engineering operations and planning	JTF-6 Staff Engineer, Study Manager
Mr. Milton Blankenship	JTF-6 (Cooperating Agency)	Geology/ Hazardous Materials	12 years experience in geology and HAZMAT management and geohydrology	JTF-6 Environmental Coordination
Mr. Eric Verwers	Fort Worth Corps of Engineers	Biology	7 years environmental impact assessment for Federal projects. 3 years wildlife restoration.	Fort Worth District Corps of Engineers, Project Manager
Ms. Yvonne Vallette	EPA (Cooperating Agency)	Biology/Ecology	7 years EIS preparation, Vicksburg District; 8 years EIS review EPA, Region 6	EPA, Region 6, EIS review
Mr. Chris Ingram	GMI	Biology/Ecology	2 years EIS studies, Sunbelt Research Corporation; 7 years EIS studies Gulf South Research Institute; 4 years EIS studies, Gulf Engineers and Consultants; 3 years EIS studies, Geo-Marine, Inc.	Study Manager, Formulation of Alternatives, Biological Evaluation, Public Involvement, Review, and Consultation

NAME	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	DISCIPLINE/ EXPERTISE	EXPERIENCE	ROLE IN PREPARING EIS
Mr. Chris Beacham	GMI	Socioeconomics	2 years EIS studies, Gulf Engineers and Consultants; 1 year, navigation studies LSU Ports and Waterways Institute; 5 years, economic studies, Gulf South Research Institute; 3 years, EIS studies, Geo-Marine, Inc.	Socioeconomic Resources
Ms. Kelli Cossé	GMI	Socioeconomics	1.5 years, EIS studies Geo-Marine, Inc.	Socioeconomic Resources
Mr. Jerry Bolton	GMI	Biology/Ecology	2 years wetland investigations SW Florida Water Management District; 5 years EIS studies, HNTB; 0.5 years Geo-Marine, Inc.	Biology/Baseline Evaluations
Dr. Joseph J. Campo	GMI	Biology/Ecology/ Botany	9 years wildlife management, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; 2 years EIS studies, Geo-Marine, Inc.	Biological Resources; Study Review and Coordination
Mr. Duane Peter	GMI	Archaeology	18 years archaeological investigations, Texas; 5 years EIS studies, Geo-Marine, Inc.	Archeology and Historic Resources
Mr. Stephen M'Buta	GMI	Archaeology	12 years archaeological investigations, U.S.A.	Archeology and Historic Resources

8.0 ACRONYMS

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ARMS	Archaeological Records Management System
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CER	Construction Engineering Research Lab
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DOD	Department of Defense
EIFS	Economic Impact Forecast System
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPIC	El Paso Intelligence Center
FORSCOM	U.S. Forces Command
ft^2	square foot
FWCOE	Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
FY	Fiscal Year
GIS	Geographic Information System
HIDTA	High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas
IBWC	International Boundary Water Commission
INS	Immigration and Naturalization Service
JCS	Joint Chiefs of Staff
JTF-6	Joint Task Force-Six
LEA	Local Law Enforcement Agency
LP/OP	Listening Post/Observation Post
METL	Mission Essential Task List
mi^2	square mile
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFS	National Forest Service
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent

NPS	National Park Service
PAS	Preliminary Assessment Screening
PEIS	Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
PIP	Planning Information Program
POL	Petroleum, Oil, or Lubricants
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
SEDUE	Secretaria de Desarrollo Urbano y Ecologia
SPCCP	Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures P
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TM	Technical Manual
TOC	Tactical Operation Center

9.0 REFERENCES

9.0 REFERENCES

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10.0 INDEX

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APPENDIX A
INS/EPA AGREEMENT

COOPERATING AGENCY AGREEMENT

between

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)
The Lead Agency

and

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Region 6
The Cooperating Agency

on the
Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)
For
JTF-6 Activities along the United States-Mexico Border

INTRODUCTION

This agreement outlines the responsibilities agreed to by the above Federal agencies with respect to the preparation of both the Draft and Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to allow the JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) to continue its program of providing operational, engineering, and administrative support to law enforcement agencies with responsibility for control of illegal drug activities within the border States of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

The Fort Worth District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at the request of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), is preparing a PEIS to determine the environmental impacts of JTF-6 efforts along the U.S./Mexico border. The PEIS will cover past and reasonably foreseeable projects to be undertaken by JTF-6 for numerous law enforcement agencies within a 50-mile-wide corridor along the four southwestern States of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. The PEIS will describe the general types of projects expected and address the types of impacts that would be expected to result from the continuation of the JTF-6 program.

EPA RESPONSIBILITIES

1. EPA will participate in the scoping and public meeting process and will consult with INS as appropriate through the Region 6 office in Dallas, to facilitate EPA's discussions and to ensure that these discussions are consistent throughout the development of the PEIS.

2. The comments EPA provides to INS will be advisory.

3. EPA will participate in field visits and coordination meetings at the INS's request.

4. EPA will provide pertinent information available through its regional programs to assist in the description of environmental conditions along the U.S./Mexico border area.

5. This agreement will appear in all documents in which the EPA is designated as a cooperating agency.

LEAD AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. INS will conduct an in-house scoping meeting with EPA staff to solicit views and input on regulatory and/or significant environmental issues associated with the proposed actions.

2. INS will consult with EPA but will retain sole responsibility for determination of which alternative is selected and what mitigation will be included in the project.

3. INS acknowledges that EPA will conduct an official Section 309 Review on all appropriate sections of the Draft and Final EISs. The agreement does not affect EPA's independent responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

4. EPA will be given preliminary copies of both the Draft and Final EISs for review prior to final INS approval and distribution of the documents.

5. A statement that describes the extent of EPA's role as a cooperating agency will be placed in the introduction section of the EIS.

6. This agreement is terminated when the INS Record of Decision is signed or when written notice is given by either agency.

for Russell F. Rhoades
Director
Environmental Services Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6

Dated: 4/14/94

Martin H. Duby
Associate Commissioner
Human Resources and
Administration
U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization
Service

Dated: 4/28/94

APPENDIX B
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

NOTICE OF INTENT

and (2) Sarah J. Whitley, Burlington Northern Railroad Company, 3800 Continental Plaza, 777 Main Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald J. Shaw (202) 927-5610. [TDD for hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Additional information is contained in the Commission's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call, or pick up in person from: Dynamic Concepts, Inc., room 2229, Interstate Commerce Commission Building, Washington, DC 20423. Telephone: (202) 289-4357/4359. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD service (202) 927-5721.]

Decided: July 6, 1993.

By the Commission, Chairman McDonald, Vice Chairman Simmons, Commissioners Phillips, Philbin, and Walden.

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 93-16772 Filed 7-14-93, 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7035-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Clean Water Act; United States v. Union Tank Car Co.

In accordance with Departmental policy, 28 CFR 50.7, 38 FR 19029 (July 17, 1973), notice is hereby given that on July 6, 1993, a proposed Consent Decree in *United States of America* v. *Union Tank Car Company*, Civil Action No. CV91-2100, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana.

In 1991, a Complaint in this action was filed by the United States of America against Union Tank Car Company under sections 301 and 309(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1311 and 1319(a), in connection with Union Tank Car's discharge of pollutants into navigable waters of the United States at its facility located near Ville Platte, Louisiana.

The proposed Consent Decree entered between the United States and Union Tank Car provides for payment of a civil penalty in the amount of $350,000 to the United States. The Consent Decree also requires the defendant to construct a wastewater treatment plant on its facility and to finance a sewer connection between its facility and the City of Ville Platte Publicly Owned Treatment Works, for disposal of the defendant's sanitary and industrial wastewater generated at its facility.

The Department of Justice will receive, for thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice, written comments relating to the proposed Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, P.O. Box 7611, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044, and should refer to *United States* v. *Union Tank Car Company*, DOJ Ref. No. 90-5-1-1-3211.

The proposed Consent Decree may be examined at the office of the United States Attorney General, Western District of Louisiana, FNB Tower, 600 Jefferson Street, suite 1000, Lafayette, Louisiana 70501-7502, the Region VI Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202; and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW., 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20005, 202-624-0892. A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW., 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20005. In requesting a copy, please enclose a check in the amount of $5.25 (25 cents per page reproduction charge) payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Myles E. Flint,

Acting Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division

[FR Doc. 93-16725 Filed 7-14-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-01-M

Antitrust Division

Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research Act of 1984—National Information Technology Center of Maryland, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that, on June 8, 1993, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research Act of 1984, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), the National Information Technology Center of Maryland, Inc., ("NITC"), has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, the following companies have become members of NITC: Ballard, Spahr, Andrews & Ingersoll, Washington, DC; Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Rhode Island, Providence, RI; Bryan Cave, Washington, DC, Dayton T. Brown, Inc., Bohemia, NY; Khafre Systems International, Inc., Silver Spring, MD; Landmark Systems Corporation, Vienna, VA; Man Made Systems, Ellicott City, MD; Martin Marietta Laboratories of the Martin Marietta Corporation, Baltimore, MD; OAO Corporation, Greenbelt, MD; The World Bank, Washington, DC; U.S. West, Inc., Advanced Technology Division, Boulder, CO.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and NITC intends to file additional written notification disclosing all changes in membership.

On September 12, 1991, NITC, then known as the Maryland Information Technologies Center, Inc., filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the Federal Register pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on October 22, 1991, (56 FR 54,586).

The last notification was filed with the Department on March 10, 1993. A notice was published in the Federal Register pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act of April 22, 1993, (58 FR 21,598).

Joseph H. Widmar,

Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 93-16789 Filed 7-14-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-01-M

Immigration and Naturalization Service

[INS No. 1626-93]

Intent to Prepare a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Operations of Joint Task Force Six

AGENCY: The Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice. Joint Task Force Six (JTF-6), Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: This Notice is to announce the preparation of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the anticipated activities and effects of Department of Defense Joint Task Force Six (JTF-6) in support of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Anticipated activities might include: reconnaissance operations, building and renovation of roads and radio towers along the United States southwest land border.

DATES: To be considered in the Draft PEIS, written comments and suggestions should be received not later than August 30, 1993.

ADDRESSES: To be included on the current mailing list or to forward written comments, please write to the following address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, ATTN: CESWF-PL-RE (Eric Verwers), P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Verwers, Environmental Resource Specialist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 17300, 819 Taylor Street, Forth Worth, TX 76102-0300, telephone (817) 334-3246.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Since the late 1800's, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has been responsible for the protection of the Nation's borders from smuggling and unlawful entry of illegal aliens into the United States. This task has primarily been accomplished by the Border Patrol. Because of the increase in drug smuggling operations, the Border Patrol has been designated the primary law enforcement agency responsible for narcotics interdiction between all of the United States land ports of entry.

JTF-6 was activated November 13, 1989, at Fort Bliss, Texas by the Secretary of Defense in accordance with the President's National Drug Control Strategy. The thrust of this program is the use of Department of Defense training resources in the support of agencies responsible for the fight against illegal drugs.

The mission of JTF-6 is to plan and coordinate military operations and training along the United States southwest land border in support of counterdrug activities by Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies, as requested through Operation Alliance and approved by the Secretary of Defense or a designated representative. The actions performed by JTF-6 personnel are quite diverse, ranging from reconnaissance operations to the building and renovation of roads and radio towers.

Alternative: No Action.

Scope: The PEIS will provide a general assessment of the expected impacts from the various types of JTF-6 activities, including possible cumulative impacts. The PEIS will develop procedures that will identify the need for documentation in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, Public Law 91-190, as amended, for other specific activities as they occur.

The INS and other Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies will be able to develop supplemental PEISs or incorporate the PEIS to a site specific Environmental Assessment, as allowed by NEPA, for activities or locations not specifically addressed in the PEIS. Approximately 75% of the JTF-6 actions that require environmental assessment are for the INS.

Invitation to Participate/Scoping Process Comments received as a result of this notice will be used to assist INS in identifying impacts to the quality of the human environment. Scoping meetings will be held along the United States-Mexico Border to identify alternatives and significant issues related to the proposed action. Times and dates will be published in local newspapers and made available to current mailing lists. Individuals or organizations may participate in the scoping process by providing written comments or by attending the scoping meetings.

Dated: July 8, 1993.

Chris Sale,

Acting Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

[FR Doc. 93-16786 Filed 7-14-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Committee for Biological Sciences; Committee of Visitors of the Developmental Mechanisms Program; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

Name: Committee of Visitors of the Developmental Mechanisms Program; Division of Integrative Biology and Neuroscience.

Date and Time August 4-6, 1993; 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. each day.

Place. Room 1243, NSF, 1800 G Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr Bruce Umminger, Division Director, Division of Integrative Biology and Neuroscience, Room 321, National Science Foundation, 1800 G St. NW., Washington, DC 20550. Telephone: (202) 357-7905.

Purpose of Meeting: To carry out Committee of Visitors (COV) review, including examination of decisions on proposals, reviewer comments, and other privileged materials.

Agenda. To provide oversight review of the Departmental Mechanisms Program.

Reason for Closing: The meeting is closed to the public because the Committee is reviewing proposal actions that will include privileged intellectual property and personal information that could harm individuals if they were disclosed. If discussions were open to the public, these matters that are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act would be improperly disclosed.

Dated: July 12, 1993.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 93-16807 Filed 7-14-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

Ocean Sciences Review Panel; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

Name: Ocean Sciences Review Panel.

Date and Time: August 3-4, 1993, 9 a.m.

Place. St. James Hotel, 950 24th St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Dr. Paul Dauphin, National Science Foundation, 1800 G St. NW., Washington, DC 20550. Telephone: (202) 357-7837.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda To review and evaluate Ocean Drilling proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: July 12, 1993.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 93-16808 Filed 7-14-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

Special Emphasis Panel in Undergraduate Education; Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting

Name Special Emphasis Panel in Undergraduate Education.

Date And Time August 17, 1993; 7.30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; August 18, 1993; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; August 19, 1993; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; August 20, 1993, 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place The Grand Hotel, 2350 M Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037.

Type Of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person. Dr Terry Woodin, Program Director; National Science Foundation; 1800 G Street, NW., room 1210; Washington, DC; Telephone: (202) 357-7051

Purpose Of Meeting. To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposa' submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate unsolicited proposals submitted to the

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

EIS No. 940120, Draft Supplement, COE, WI, Wisconsin River Flood Protection, Updated Information concerning the Portage Canal Lock, General Design Memorandum and Flood Control Study, St. Paul District, Columbia County, WI, *Due:* May 30, 1994, *Contract:* Robert Whiting (612) 290–5264.

EIS No. 940121, Draft EIS, AFS, ID, Tailholt Administration Research Study, Timber Harvesting and Road Construction, Payette National Forest, Krassel Ranger District, Valley County, ID, *Due:* May 30, 1994, *Contact:* Rudy Verschoor (208) 634–0417.

EIS No. 940122, Final EIS, FHW, NC, US 23/I–26 Corridor Transportation Improvements, NC–197/Barnardsville Road to North Carolina-Tennessee State Line, Funding, COE section 404 Permit and EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, Buncombe and Madison Counties, NC, *Due:* May 16, 1994, *Contact:* Nicolas L. Graf (919) 856–4366.

EIS No. 940123, Draft EIS, AFS, NM, Santa Fe Ski Area Master Development Plan, Upgrading and Expansion, Special-Use-Permit, Santa Fe National Forest, Espanola Ranger District, Santa Fe County, NM, *Due:* August 1, 1994, *Contact:* Robert Remillard (505) 667–5120.

EIS No. 940124, Draft EIS, AFS, CO, Telluride Ski Area Expansion Project, Implementation, Special-Use-Permit and COE section 404 Permit, Grand Mesa Uncompahgre and Gunnion National Forests, Norwood Ranger District, San Miguel County, CO, *Due:* June 1, 1994, *Contact:* Jeff Burch (303) 874–7691.

EIS No. 940125, Final EIS, FHW, IA, US 20 Relocation, US 65 south of Iowa Falls to existing US 20 at the Grundy/Black Hawk County Line, Funding and COE section 404 Permit, Hardin and Grundy Counties, IA, *Due:* May 16, 1994, *Contact:* H.A. Willard (515) 233–1664.

EIS No. 940126, Final EIS, AFS, NM, La Mange Timber Sales, Implementation, Carson National Forest, EL Rito Ranger District, Rio Arriba County, NM, *Due:* May 16, 1994, *Contact:* Graciela Terrazas (505) 581–4554.

EIS No. 940127, Final EIS, COE, LA, Gulf of Mexico Waters Oyster Shell Dredging Project, COE section 10 and 404 Permits, East Cote Blanche and Atchafalaya Bays, Terrebonne and St. Mary Parishes, LA, *Due:* May 16, 1994, *Contact:* Robert Bosenberg (504) 862–2522.

EIS No. 940128, Draft EIS, JUS, TX, AZ, NM, CA, Joint Task Force (JTF)—Continuation of Six Support Services Program, Implementation, Programmatic EIS, TX, NM, AZ, CA, U.S./Mexico Border and Texas Gulf Coast, *Due:* May 30, 1994, *Contract:* Eric Verwers (817) 334–3246.

EIS No. 940129, Draft EIS, DOD, Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Program, Implementation, also includes the Theater Missile Defense (TMD) and National Missile Defense (NMD) Initiatives, Programmatic EIS, United States, *Due:* May 31, 1994, *Contact:* Tracy A. Bailey (800) 636–2636.

EIS No. 940130, Final EIS, AFS, OR, Ochoco National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for Standards and Guidelines Regarding Oil and Gas Leasing, Implementation, Grant, Crook, Wheeler, Jefferson and Harney Counties, OR, *Due:* May 16, 1994, *Contact:* Deborah S. Tout (503) 447–9506.

EIS No. 940131, Draft EIS, FHW, CA, CA–58 Mojave Freeway Project, Construction from 0.1 mile east of the Cache Creek Bridge to 5.0 miles east of the town of Mojave, Funding, COE section 404 Permit and Right-of-Way Acquisition, Kern County, CA, *Due:* May 30, 1994, *Contact:* Leonard E. Brown (916) 551–1307.

EIS No. 940132, Draft EIS, DOE, WA, ID, WY, NV, OR, MT, CA, AZ, Delivery of the Canadian Entitlement by the United States Entity, In accordance with the Columbia River Treaty, Implementation, WA, OR, ID, WI, WY, CA, NV, AZ and British Columbia, *Due:* May 30, 1994, *Contact:* Carol M. Borgstrom (800) 622–4520.

EIS No. 940133, Draft Supplement, UMT, UT, I–15/State Street Corridor Highway and Transit Improvements, Funding, Updated Information, Salt Lake County, UT, *Due:* May 30, 1994, *Contact:* Louis F. Mraz (303) 844–3242.

EIS No. 940134, Final EIS, COE, OH, Cleveland Harbor Navigation Channels Maintenance, Confined Disposal Facility (Site 10B 15 Year) Construction and Use, Lake Erie, Cuyahoga River, Cuyahoga County, OH, *Due:* May 16, 1994, *Contact:* Tod Smith (716) 879–4173.

Dated: April 12, 1994.

Marshall Cain,

Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Federal Activities.

[FR Doc. 94–9165 Filed 4–14–94; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–U–M

[PP 6G3350/T656; FRL 4767–9]

Carbon Disulfide; Renewal of Temporary Tolerances

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has renewed temporary tolerances for residues of the nematicide, insecticide, and fungicide carbon disulfide in or on certain raw agricultural commodities at 0.1 part per million (ppm) resulting from soil applications of sodium tetrathiocarbonate.

DATES: These temporary tolerances expire December 15, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Cynthia Giles-Parker, Product Manager (PM) 22, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 229, CM#2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 305–5540.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA issued a notice, published in the **Federal Register** of May 27, 1992 (57 FR 22232, stating that temporary tolerances have been renewed for residues of the nematicide, insecticide, and fungicide carbon disulfide in or on the raw agricultural commodities almonds, almond hulls, apricots, peaches, plums (fresh prunes), prunes, and tomatoes at 0.1 part per million (ppm) resulting from soil applications of sodium tetrathiocarbonate. Under title 40 CFR section 180.467, permanent tolerances have been established which would cover any residues from testing on oranges and grapefruit under Experimental Use Permit 612-EUP-1. These tolerances are renewed in response to pesticide petition (PP) 6G3350, submitted by Unocal Agriproducts, c/o Eliot I. Harrison, Delta Analytical Corp., 7910 Woodmont Ave., Suite 1000, Bethesda, Md 20814.

The company has requested a 2–year renewal of temporary tolerances for residues of the pesticide to permit the continued marketing of the above raw agricultural commodities when treated in accordance with the provisions of the experimental use permit 612-EUP-1, which is being renewed under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as amended (Pub. L. 95–396, 92 Stat. 819; 7 U.S.C. 136).

The scientific data reported and other relevant material were evaluated, and it was determined that renewal of the temporary tolerances will protect the

Corporation, Civil Action No. 92–5213, was lodged on May 5, 1994 with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

The Consent Decree concerns violations of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.* ("the Act"), and National Emission Standard for Hazardous Pollutants for Benzene Emissions from Coke By-Product Recovery Plants, 40 CFR part 61, subpart L ("Benzene Coke NESHAP"), promulgated under Section 112 of the Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 7412, at the defendant's coke by-product recovery plants located in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and in Sparrows Point, Maryland.

The complaint in this action alleged that the defendant failed to come into compliance with the Benzene Coke NESHAP until nine months and three months after the respective deadlines established in compliance waivers EPA granted to defendant for the Bethlehem and Sparrows Point coke by-product plants. The complaint also alleged violations of reporting requirements to which the defendant was subject under the compliance waivers and under 40 CFR 61.10. The proposed Consent Decree requires defendant to comply with the Benzene Coke NESHAP in its future operations at the Bethlehem and Sparrows Point plants, and to pay a $650,000 civil penalty, plus interest.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed consent decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530, and should refer to *United States* v. *Bethlehem Steel Corporation* (E.D. Pa.) DOJ Ref. #90–5–2–1–1729.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the office of the United States Attorney, 615 Chestnut Street, Suite 1300 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106; the Region III Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 841 Chestnut Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107; and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW., 4th floor, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 624–0892. A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW., 4th floor, Washington, DC 20005. In requesting a copy please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of $6.00 (25 cents per page reproduction costs), payable to the Consent Decree Library.

John C. Cruden,

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 94–12237 Filed 5–18–94; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–01–M

Lodging of Modification to Consent Decree Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act

In accordance with Departmental policy, 28 CFR 50.7, notice is hereby given that on May 10, 1994, a proposed Modification to Consent Decree in *United States* v. *Ottati & Goss, Inc. et al*, Civil No. 80–225–L, and *IMCERA Group, Inc.* v. *United States Environmental Protection Agency, et al*, 89–400–D, was lodged with the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire. The proposed Modification to Consent Decree concerns the response to the existence of hazardous substances at the Ottati & Goss/Great Lakes Container Corporation Site located in New Hampshire pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, as amended and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Under the terms of the Modification to Consent Decree, Mobil Oil Corporation, a de minimis party, will directly reimburse the United States $10,000 for costs related to the GLCC portion of the Site. In addition, Mobil will pay IMCERA Group, Inc. an amount towards the $4 million payment made to the governments under the terms of the original settlement based on Mobil's alleged volumetric share. Upon entry of the Modification, Mobil will become a party to the Consent Decree entered on December 22, 1993, between the Plaintiffs, IMCERA Group, Inc., and over 300 de minimis parties, subject to the obligations and entitled to the rights arising from that Decree.

The Department of Justice will receive for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication comments relating to the proposed Modification to Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General of the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044, and should refer to *United States* v. *Ottati & Goss, Inc.*, D.J. Ref. 90–7–1–79A.

The proposed Consent Decree may be examined at the Region 1 Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, One Congress Street, Boston, Massachusetts. Copies of the Consent Decree may be examined at the Environmental Enforcement Section Document Center, 1120 G Street, NW., 4th floor, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 624–0892. A copy of the proposed Consent Decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Document Center. In requesting a copy, please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of $2.75 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) made payable to Consent Decree Library.

John C. Cruden,

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 94–12238 Filed 5–18–94; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–01–M

Immigration and Naturalization Service

[INS No. 1626–94]

Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement to Continue the Program of Protecting the Southwest Border Through the Interdiction of Illegal Drugs With the Support of the Joint Task Force Six

AGENCY: The Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice. Joint Task Force Six, Environmental Agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the draft programmatic environmental impact statement (DPEIS).

SUMMARY: This Notice is to notify interested parties that the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has prepared a DPEIS for the proposed continuation of the Joint Task Force Six (JTF–6) support Program. The JTF–6 Program involves providing operational, engineering, and general support to Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) that have drug interdiction responsibilities within the southwestern border states.

DATES: Written comments and suggestions must be received no later than May 30, 1994. The final PEIS will be prepared after receipt of public comments.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the DPEIS, "JTF–6 Activities Along the U.S./Mexico Border (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California)," are available upon written request to the following address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, CESWF–PL–RE, P.O. Box 17300, 819 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102–0300.

Send written comments on the DPEIS to Mr. Eric Verwers, Environmental Resource Planner, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, CESWF–PL–RE, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas 76102–0300.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding the DPEIS should be directed to Mr. Eric Verwers, Environmental Resource Planner, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CESWF-PL-RE, telephone (817) 334-3246, or P.O. Box 17300, 819 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Statutory Authority

This Notice is being issued to interested parties in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Public Law 91-190, and Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA, 40 CFR parts 1500-1508. These Regulations allow for a 45-day comment period from the date the DPEIS is submitted to Environmental Protection Agency and the Notice of availability is published in the **Federal Register**. That date was April 15, 1994.

Background

JTF-6 was activated on November 13, 1989, at Fort Bliss, Texas, by the Secretary of Defense in accordance with the President's National Drug Control Strategy. The thrust of this program is the use of Department of Defense training resources in the support of agencies responsible for the fight against illegal drugs.

The mission of JTF-6 is to plan and coordinate military training along the U.S. Southwest Land Border in support of counter-drug activities by Federal, State, and Local LEA's, as requested through Operation Alliance and approved by the Secretary of Defense or a designated representative.

The JTF-6 Program provides operational, engineering, and general support to LEAs operating within the Southwestern United States which have drug interdiction authority and allows the LEAs to conduct their missions more efficiently and effectively. The actions performed by JTF-6 personnel are quite diverse, ranging from reconnaissance operations to the building and renovation of roads and radio towers. The JTF-6's primary area of concern is within a 50-mile-wide corridor along the U.S./Mexico Border from Port Arthur, Texas, to San Diego, California.

The INS is responsible for the prevention of smuggling and unlawful entry of aliens into the United States. This is the task of the Border Patrol, which also has been designated the primary law enforcement component responsible for drug interdiction between the U.S. land Ports-of-Entry.

Since the Border Patrol has been the primary beneficiary of most JTF-6 engineering actions to date, INS elected to act as lead agency for the preparation of this DPEIS. The Environmental Protection Agency and JTF-6 elected to act as cooperating agencies. A Notice of Intent to prepare a PEIS was published on July 15, 1993, in the **Federal Register** at 58 FR 38140.

Purpose

The purpose of the DPEIS is to address cumulative environmental impacts of previous actions as well as those actions which may be developed within the reasonably foreseeable future. The DPEIS analyzes these cumulative impacts and generically examines the impacts of future individual actions based on experience with similar past actions. The DPEIS also describes the different types of actions performed by JTF-6.

Proposed Action

Based on performance accomplishments, INS wishes to have JTF-6 continue to provide the support services to the LEA's at the same or similar levels that have occurred since November 1989. The support services provided by JTF-6 to the LEA's are characterized as operational, engineering, and general.

This proposed action complies with the National Defense Authorization Act (Pub. L. 101-510, as amended) and the President's National Drug Control Strategy, in accordance with Section 1005 of the Anti Drug Abuse Act (Pub. L. 100-690). Continuation of the JTF-6 Program is INS' preferred alternative.

Alternatives

1. No action, which essentially is a discontinuation of the JTF-6 support services to the LEA's.

2. To continue the JTF-6 Program without the engineering support services, which is the support category that has greatest potential for environmental impacts.

Dated: May 12, 1994.

Doris Meissner,

Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

[FR Doc. 94-12156 Filed 5-18-94; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Biological and Critical Systems; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Special Emphasis Panel in Biological and Critical Systems.

Date & Time: June 7, 1994, 9:00 am-4:00 pm.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., room 565, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

Contact Person: Dr. Edward H. Bryan, Program Director, Environmental Engineering, Room 565 National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd.

Telephone: 703/306-1318.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Engineering Research Equipment proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government Sunshine Act.

Dated: May 16, 1994.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 94-12210 Filed 5-18-94; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

Special Emphasis Panel for Industrial Innovation Interface; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Special Emphasis Panel for Industrial Innovation Interface.

Date and Time: June 9 & 10, 1994; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: Rooms 580 & 530, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact Person: Michael F. Crowley, Program Director, Office of Industrial Innovation and Partnerships, Rm. 590, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone (703) 306-1391.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate proposals for the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program.

Reason for closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552 b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

SCOPING MEETING NOTICES

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

PUB. SCOPING MTGS./JTF-6

19

ARIZONA BUSINESS GAZETTE

P.O. Box 1950
Phoenix, Arizona 85001
(602) 271-7300

STATE OF ARIZONA
COUNTY OF MARICOPA } SS.

JOAN LOHR, being first duly sworn, upon oath deposes and says: That she is the legal ad manager of the Arizona Business Gazette, a newspaper of general circulation in the county of Maricopa, State of Arizona, published at Phoenix, Arizona, and that the copy hereto attached is a true copy of the advertisement published in the said paper on the dates as indicated.

ARIZONA BUSINESS GAZETTE

9/30/1993

Joan Lohr

Sworn to before me this
30TH day of
SEPTEMBER A.D. 19 93

Thomas F. Bi...

Notary Public

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

In support of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and other law enforcement agencies, activities will include the coordination of military construction operations and training along the southwest land border as requested by Operation Alliance and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

The EIS will provide a general assessment of the expected impacts from various types of INS/JFT-6 activities, including possible cumulative impacts. The Notice of Intent (NOU) for the preparation of the EIS was published in the Federal Register on July 15, 1993 and the comment period has been extended to Nov. 5, 1993.

Five public meetings have already been held in Texs and the four remaining public meetings will take place along the border with the purpose of collecting issues and concerns that will be addressed in the EIS. For more information, call Eric Verwers, JTF-6 project manager for the Corps, at 817-334-3246 or write to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, Attn: Eric Verwers, CESWF-PL-RE, P. O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texs 76102-0300. Locations are listed with each meeting beginning at 7 p.m.

Oct. 12 Deming Civic Center, 110 S. Diamond, Deming, N.M.

Oct. 14 Tucson Convention Center (Greenlee Room), 260 S. Church, Tucson, Ariz.

Oct. 19 Yuma Convention Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Dr., Yuma, Ariz.

Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.Published: September 30, 1993

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF ARIZONA)
)ss.
County of Maricopa)

No. 893110

I, CONNIE RICHMOND

Legal Clerk

being duly sworn, depose and say: I am ~~Office Manager~~ of the

SCOTTSDALE **Progress**

wspaper of general circulation published cottsdale, County of Maricopa, State of ona, that the

opping Meetings

attached herein, was duly published for the full

1 Day

period as required by law, in said Scottsdale Progress.

Sept. 29, 1993

Connie Richmond

~~Office Manager~~
Legal Clerk

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30 day of Sept., 19 93

Cathy Jackson

Notary Public.

My Commission Expires

OFFICIAL SEAL
CATHY JACKSON
NOTARY PUBLIC-ARIZONA
MARICOPA COUNTY
My Comm. Expires Mar. 5, 1997

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Oct. 21 - Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

Pub Sept 29, 1993

S-893110

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of New Mexico,
County of Lea.

I, Kathi Bearden

General Manager

of the Hobbs Daily News-Sun, a daily newspaper published at Hobbs, New Mexico, do solemnly swear that the clipping attached hereto was published once a week in the regular and entire issue of said paper, and not a supplement thereof for a period.

of

one weeks.

Beginning with the issue dated

September 29, 1993

and ending with the issue dated

September 29, 1993

Kathi Bearden
General Manager

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 30 day of September, 1993

Marlene Perrin
Notary Public.

My Commission expires
March 15, 1997
(Seal)

This newspaper is duly qualified to publish legal notices or advertisements within the meaning of Section 3, Chapter 167, Laws of 1937, and payment of fees for said publication has been made.

LEGAL NOTICE
September 29, 1993
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

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Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

PUBLISHERS AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF ARIZONA)

) SS.

COUNTY OF COCHISE)

Deborah Maple being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That she is the Secretary of the Sierra Vista Herald and the Bisbee Daily Review, newspapers published six days a week in Bisbee and Sierra Vista, Cochise County, State of Arizona

Notice of Public Scoping Meetings, Proposed JTF-6 Activities

a copy of which is hereto attached, was published in its issues for 1 times on the following dates:

September 26, 1993

Subscribed and sworn to me this 27th day of Sept, 19 93

Sheryll R. Bruening

NOTARY PUBLIC

OFFICIAL SEAL
SHERYLL R. BRUENING
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF ARIZONA
COCHISE COUNTY
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 10, 1997

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

In support of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and other law enforcement agencies, activities will include the coordination of military construction operations and training along the southwest land border as requested by Operation Alliance and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

The EIS will provide a general assessment of the expected impacts from various types of INS/JTF-6 activities, including possible cumulative impacts. The Notice of Intend (NOI) for the preparation of the EIS was published in the Federal Register on July 15, 1993 and the comment period has been extended to Nov. 5, 1993.

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Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

Publish: September 26, 1993

NOTICES

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Nine public meetings will take place along the border with the purpose of ollecting issues and concerns that will e addressed in the EIS. For more nformation, call Eric Verwers, JTF-6 project manager for the Corps, at 817-34-3246 or write to: U.S. Army Corps f Engineers, Fort Worth District, Attn: Eric Verwers, CESWF-PL-RE, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-300. Locations are listed with each neeting beginning at 7 p.m.

Aug. 31 - Bayfront Plaza Convention Center, 1901 N. Shoreline, Corpus Christi, Texas

Sept. 1 - Hilton Inn, 2721 S. 10th McAllen, Texas

Sept. 2 - Laredo Junior College (Criminal Justice Building), West End Washington St., Laredo, Texas

Sept. 14 - Alpine Civic Center, 309 W. Sul Ross Ave., Alpine Texas

Sept. 16 - El Paso Convention Center (Juarez Room), 1 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, Texas

Oct. 12 - Deming Civic Center, 110 S. Diamond, Deming, NM

Oct. 14 - Tucson Convention Center (Greenlee Room), 260 S. Church, Tucson, AZ

Oct. 19 - Yuma Convention Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Dr., Yuma, AZ

Oct. 21 - Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, CA.

9-2-1tc

IF YOU HAVE had a recent emergency that has caused a crisis in your families ability to meet utility payments you may be eligible for our Energy Crisis Program or Utility Assistance Program. Proof of income and evidence of crisis, are needed for applications. Priority will be given to the elderly and the handicapped. Program over Sept. 30, 1993. For information contact your local Community Action Office at 729-4876.

9-2-1tc

Personals

We would like to send our sincere thanks to all of our friends and relatives for their support, help and love during the loss of our loved one, "Omar". You all are greatly appreciated. May God Bless You.

Valentin Carrasco and Family 9-2-1tp

Bibiana Valenzuela would like to extend her sincere thanks for the kindness and love shown during the loss of her loved one, Jorge Valenzuela.

This Sunday.....

Attend the Church of your

Affidavit of Publication

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF CULBERSON

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared:

Larry D. Simpson

known to me, who being by me duly sworn, upon his oath, deposes and says that he is the publisher of the Van Horn Advocate, a legal newspaper published weekly in Van Horn, Culberson County, Texas, and that the

Notice of Meetings

a copy of which is hereto attached, was published in said newspaper on the following dates, to-wit:

Sept. 2, 1993

Larry Simpson

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of Oct. 1993.

Dawn Simpson
Notary Public, Culberson County, Texas

DAWN SIMPSON
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
May 11, 1995

LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

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Oct. 21 — Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

O1

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
County of Grant ss

William F. Archibald, being first duly sworn, on his oath says: That he is the manager of the Silver City Daily Press and Independent, a newspaper printed and published in the Town of Silver City, in the County of Grant and the State of New Mexico, and that said newspaper is now, and was at all times herein mentioned, a newspaper of general circulation.

That the advertisement, a copy of which is hereto attached, was published in said herinbefore mentioned newspaper once each and every week for 1 consecutive week(s), the first publication thereof having been made on 10/1/93 and the last publication thereof having been made on

That said newspaper was regularly printed, published and issued with said notice therein upon the following dates, to wit:

Oct 1, 1993

William F. Archibald

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of Oct. 1993

Notary Public

My commission expires June 11, 1995.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC SCOPING
MEETINGS TO BE HELD

...e public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

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...tions are listed with each ...ting beginning at 7 p.m. ...t. 12 Deming Civic Center, ...S. Diamond, Deming, N.M. ...t. 14 Tucson Convention ...er (Greenlee Room), 260 ...hurch, Tucson, Ariz. ...19 Yuma Convention Cen... ...440 W. Desert Hills, Dr., ..., Ariz. ...21 Southwest High School ...Hollister St., San Diego,

Oct. 5, 1993.

0

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF ARIZONA,

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ } SS.

Before me, JESSE ALVARADO a Notary Public in and for the County of Santa Cruz, State of Arizona, duly commmissioned and sworn, personally appeared:

Alvin L. Sisk , who being first duly sworn deposes and says:

That he is the Publisher of THE NOGALES HERALD, a daily newspaper published at Nogales, Santa Cruz County, Arizona, and that the annexed notice of advertisement was published in said daily newspaper for 1 times, the dates of publication being: October 5, 1993

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5 day of Oct, 1993

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: My Commission Expires Jan. 4, 1998

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

This Space is County Clerk's Filing Stamp

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

County of Imperial

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk* of the printer of the

IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of El Centro, County of Imperial and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Imperial, State of California, under the date of October 9, 1951, Case Number 26775; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

E458

September 29

93

all in the year 19.....

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Patricia Carrillo

SIGNATURE

* Printer, Foreman of the Printer, or Principal Clerk of the Printer.

Date September 29 93
at El Centro, California. , 19.....

DESERT PRINTERS

Proof of Publication of

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

In support of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and other law enforcement agencies, activities will include the coordination of military construction operations and training along the southwest land border as requested by Operation Alliance and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

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Oct. 12 Deming Civic Center, 110 S. Diamond, Deming N.M.
Oct. 14 Tucson Convention Center (Greenlee Room), 260 S. Church, Tucson, Ariz.
Oct. 19 Yuma Convention Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Dr., Yuma, Ariz.
Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

No. E-458

S 29

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

This space is County Clerk's Filing Stamp

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

County of Imperial

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk* of the printer of the

IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of El Centro, County of Imperial and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Imperial, State of California, under the date of October 9, 1951, Case Number 26775; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

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93

all in the year 19.....

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Patricia Carrillo

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DESERT PRINTERS

Proof of Publication of

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
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Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

No. E-458

1 S 29

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF ARIZONA
ss.
County of Mohave

Linda Ritchie

being first duly sworn, says that during the publication of the notice, as herein mentioned he/she is the Publisher of the LAKE HAVASU HERALD, three times weekly newspaper published on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday of each and every week at the town of Lake Havasu City in said county.

That said newspaper was printed and published as aforesaid on the following dates, to-wit:

Sunday _____, 19____
Wednesday September 29, 19 93
Friday _____, 19____
Sunday _____, 19____
Wednesday _____, 19____
Friday _____, 19____
Sunday _____, 19____
Wednesday _____, 19____
Friday _____, 19____
Sunday _____, 19____
Wednesday _____, 19____
Friday _____, 19____
Sunday _____, 19____
Wednesday _____, 19____
Friday _____, 19____

That the Public Scoping Meeting to be held on Progrmammatic Environmental Impact Statement.

of which the annexed copy is a printed and true copy, was printed and inserted in each and every copy of said newspaper printed and published on the dates aforesaid, and in the body of said newspaper and not in a supplement thereto.

Linda Ritchie

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of September, 19 93

Donna R. Schroeder
Notary Public

(My Commission expires My Commission Expires Mar. 2, 1996

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the programmatic environmental impact statement being prepared by the US. Army Corps of Engineers, Forth Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border

In support of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and other law enforcement agencies, activities will include the coordination of military construction operations and training along the southwest land border as requested by Operation Alliance and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

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Oct. 19 Yuma Convention Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Dr., Yuma, Ariz.

Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

Publish: September 29, 1993
#971

Publisher's Affidavit of Publication

—000—

STATE OF ARIZONA
COUNTY OF YUMA } ss.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programming Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

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Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

Daily Sept. 29, 1993 #00421

Samuel J. Pepper or Lee Knapp, having been first duly sworn, deposes and says: that The Yuma Daily Sun is a newspaper of general circulation published daily by the Sun Printing Company, in the City of Yuma, County of Yuma, State of Arizona; that he is the publisher or business manager of said paper; that the

PUBLIC NOTICE

a printed copy of which, as it appeared in said paper, is hereto attached and made a part of this affidavit, was published in The Yuma Daily Sun for ONE issues; that the date of the first publication of said PUBLIC NOTICE

was SEPTEMBER 29, 19 93, and the date of the last publication being SEPTEMBER 29, 19 93, and that the dates when said PUBLIC NOTICE

was printed and published in said paper were

SEPTEMBER 29,1993

Lee Knapp

Subscribed and sworn to before me, by the said Samuel J. Pepper or Lee Knapp

29th day of September, 19 93

Jesse Galvez Notary Public

My commission expires

OFFICIAL SEAL
JESSE GALVEZ
Notary Public - State of Arizona
YUMA COUNTY
My Commission Expires Sept. 7, 1996

RECEIVED OCT 0 3 [illegible]

Affidavit of Publication

No 15296

State of New Mexico,
County of Eddy, ss.

Bryan Welch, being first duly sworn, on oath says:

That he is publisher of the Carlsbad Current-Argus, a newspaper published daily at the City of Carlsbad, in said county of Eddy, state of New Mexico and of general paid circulation in said county; that the same is a duly qualified newspaper under the laws of the state wherein legal notices and advertisements may be published; that the printed notice attached hereto was published in the regular and entire edition of said newspaper and not in supplement thereof on the date as follows, to wit:

SEPTEMBER 30, 19 93

_____, 19___

_____, 19___

_____, 19___

That the cost of publication is $ 42.05, and that payment thereof has been made and will be assessed as court costs.

[signature]

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30 day of SEPTEMBER, 19 93

[signature]

My commission expires 7/22/96

Notary Public

September 30, 1993

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

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Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

STAR PUBLISHING COMPANY

Tucson, Arizona

STATE OF ARIZONA)
COUNTY OF PIMA)

Barbara Ann Cook, being first duly sworn deposes and says: that she is the Legal Advertising Representative of the **STAR PUBLISHING COMPANY**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Arizona, and that the said **STAR PUBLISHING COMPANY** prints and publishes The Arizona Daily Star, a daily newspaper printed and published in the City of Tucson, Pima County, State of Arizona, and having a general circulation in said City, County, State and elsewhere, and that the attached

LEGAL NOTICE

was printed and published correctly in the entire issue of the said The Arizona Daily Star on each of the following dates, to-wit:

September 28, 1993

Barbara Ann Cook

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of September, 1993

Mary L. Markwell
Notary Public

My commission expires _____

TNI AD NO. 364786

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD
The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.
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Oct. 19 Yuma Convention Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Dr., Yuma, Ariz.
Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.
Publish September 28, 1993
The Arizona Daily Star

Affidavit of Publication

ALAMOGORDO,
STATE OF NEW MEXICO, } ss.
COUNTY OF OTERO.

Thomas W. Reeves, being duly sworn, on oath says that he is the Publisher of the **Alamogordo Daily News**, a newspaper of daily circulation, published and printed in the English language at the city of Alamogordo, Otero County, State of New Mexico. That the **Alamogordo Daily News** has been regularly published and issued for more than nine months prior to the date of the first publication hereinafter mentioned.

That the attached notice was published 1 times in 1 issues of said newspaper, and not in any supplement thereof, the first publication being on: September 28, 19 93, and subsequent publications being on: _____.

That said notice was published in accordance with the laws of the State of New Mexico.

Thomas W. Reeves

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this the 28th day of September, 19 93.

Notary Public.

My commission expires June 8, 1996.

Publication fees:

$ 27.52

(#0789 Published in the Alamogordo Daily News September 29, 1993)
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United State/Mexico border.

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Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

ch of water per application so. More water is needed in ying to get a new lawn estab- shed. If you are trying to de- de which variety of grass to ant remember that bermuda ass is better for areas with a t of traffic. The commercial scue grasses stay greener nger but they require more ater and it will not cover areas at were not seeded. Mow our lawn more often and don't g the clippings.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Scoping Meeting To Be Held

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force 6) along the United States/Mexico border.

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Nine public meetings will take place along the border with the purpose of collecting issues and concerns that will be addressed in the EIS. For more information, call Eric Verwers, JTF-6 project manager for the Corps, at (817) 334-3246, or write to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, Attn: Eric Verwers, CESWF-PL-RE, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300.

Locations are listed below with each meeting beginning at 7 p.m.

* August 31: Bayfront Plaza Convention Center, 1901 N. Shoreline, Corpus Christi, Texas;

* September 1: Hilton Inn, 2721 S. 10th, McAllen, Texas;

* September 2: Laredo Junior College (Criminal Justice Building), West End Washington St., Laredo, Texas;

(Continued on page 11)

STATE OF ARIZONA
COUNTY OF PINAL } ss.

PUBLIC SCOPING
MEETINGS TO BE HELD

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Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

No. of publications: 1; date of publication: Sept. 27, 1993.

Affidavit of Publication

DONOVAN M KRAMER, SR. first being duly sworn deposes and says: That he is a native born citizen of the United States of America, over 21 years of age, that he is publisher of the Casa Grande Dispatch, a daily newspaper published at Casa Grande, Pinal County, Arizona, Mondays through Saturdays of each week; that a notice, a full, true and complete printed copy of which is hereunto attached, was printed in the regular edition of said newspaper, and not in a supplement thereto, for ONE ~~consecutive~~ XXXXXXXXX ISSUE the first publication thereof having been on the 27TH day of SEPTEMBER A.D., 19 93

Second publication _____ 19____

Third publication _____ 19____

Fourth publication _____ 19____

Fifth publication _____ 19____

Sixth publication _____ 19____

CASA GRANDE DISPATCH

By Donovan M. Kramer Sr.
DONOVAN M. KRAMER, Publisher

Sworn to before me this 27TH day of SEPTEMBER A.D., 19 93

Mary Bean
Notary Public in and for the County of Pinal, State of Arizona

OFFICIAL SEAL
MARY BEAN
Notary Public - State of Arizona
PINAL COUNTY

My Commission Expires May 1, 1997

STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF BEXAR)

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority:

personally appeared Sylvia Longoria

to me personally known to be the Bookkeeper

of THE HEARST CORPORATION (SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS–NEWS DIVISION), daily newspapers published in the City of San Antonio, in the county and state aforesaid, and being by me first duly sworn, deposes and says that the advertisement of

Geo-Marine, Inc.

appeared in all editions of said newspaper on the following da

August 29, 1993

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by the JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/ Mexico border.

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PUBLIC MEETINGS

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Sept. 2 Laredo Junior College (Criminal Justice Building), West End Washington St., Laredo, Texas

Sept. 14 Alpine Civic Center, 309 W. Sul Ross Ave., Alpine, Texas

Sept. 16 El Paso Convention Center (Juarez Room), 1 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, Texas

Oct. 12 Deming Civic Center, 110 S. Diamond, Deming, N.M.

Oct. 14 Tucson Convention Center (Greenlee Room), 260 S. Church, Tucson, Ariz.

Oct. 19 Yuma Convention Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Dr., Yuma, Ariz.

Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

Subscribed and sworn to this 1st day of

BARBARA BURLESON NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS EXPIRES 12-2-95

Notary Public, State of Texas

My Commission Expires

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

GEO-MARINE, INC.
201 NAPOLEON STREET
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802
ATTN: BARBARA MEADS

IN THE MATTER OF

NO.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

NOTICE

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

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Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

Pub. Sept. 24

279110

I, Corey Donahue, am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the county aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the San Diego Daily Transcript, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily, except Saturdays and Sundays, in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of San Diego, State of California, under the date of January 23, 1909, Decree No. 14894; and the

NOTICE

is a true and correct copy of which the annexed is a printed copy and was published in said newspaper on the following date(s), to wit:

SEPT. 24

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at San Diego, California this 24th day of SEPT., 1993.

Corey Donahue

(Signature)

(When required)
RECORDING REQUESTED BY AND MAIL TO:

The Los Angeles DAILY JOURNAL
...Since 1888...

915 East First Street P.O. Box 54026
Los Angeles, California 90054-0026
Telephone (213) 229-5300
Fax (213) 680-3682

This space for filing stamp only

BARBARA MEADES
LOUISIANA GEO-MARINE, INC
201 NAPOLEON STREET
BATON ROUGE LA 70802

DJC8201843

Proof of Publication

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

State of California)
County of Los Angeles) SS

1161-066

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County of Los Angeles; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of the LOS ANGELES DAILY JOURNAL, a daily newspaper printed and published in the English language in the City of Los Angeles, and adjudged a newspaper of general circulation as defined by the laws of the State of California by the Superior Court of County of Los Angeles, State of California, under date of June 5, 1952, Case No. 599,382. That the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

09/27/93

EXECUTED ON : 09/27/93
AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

.....
Signature

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

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Oct. 12 Deming Civic Center, 110 S. Diamond, Deming, N.M.

Oct. 14 Tucson Convention Center (Greenlee Room), 260 S. Church, Tucson, Ariz.

Oct. 19 Yuma Convention Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Dr., Yuma, Ariz.

Oct. 21 Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

LAJ-DJC8201843/1161-066
09/27

STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF PIMA)

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS
TO BE HELD

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Pub: The Daily Territorial
September 29, 1993

Req: Geo-Marine, Inc.
pnprogra 9/29/93 se

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

[redacted] being first duly sworn, deposes and says that (he) (she) is the Legal Advertising Manager of THE DAILY TERRITORIAL, a daily newspaper printed and published in the County of Pima, State of Arizona, and of general circulation in the City of Tucson, County of Pima, State of Arizona and elsewhere, and the hereto attached

Programmatic Environmental

was printed and published correctly in the regular and entire issue of said THE DAILY TERRITORIAL for 1 issues; that the first was made on the 29th day of September 1993 and the last publication thereof was made on the 29th day of September 1993; that said publication was made on each of the following dates, to-wit:

09/29/93

Request of

GEO-MARINE, INC

The Daily Territorial

By [redacted]

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of September 1993

Stacey Stinson

Notary Public in and for the County of Pima, State of Arizona

My Commission Expires: 2/6/97

Tribune
P.O. BOX 1547 • MESA, ARIZONA 85211

P. O. Number: _____

Invoice Number: _____

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF ARIZONA
County of Maricopa

I, CONNIE RICHMOND, Legal Clerk, acknowledge that the attached hereto was published in a newspaper of general circulation at Mesa, Arizona, County of Maricopa on the following dates:

09/29 1993

M
M — Mesa T — Tempe C — Chandler G — Gilbert

Connie Richmond
LEGAL CLERK

Subscribed and sworn to before me this date: 9-29-93

Cathy Jackson
NOTARY PUBLIC

OFFICIAL SEAL
CATHY JACKSON
NOTARY PUBLIC-ARIZONA
MARICOPA COUNTY
My Comm. Expires Mar. 5, 1997

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

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Oct. 21 - Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

Pub Sept 29, 1993

MG-892048

MESA TRIBUNE LEGAL ADS ARE ALSO PUBLISHED IN THE GILBERT TRIBUNE

Affidavit of Publication

Affidavit of Publication of

LEGAL ADVERTISING

ORDERED BY: BARBARA MEAD

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
County of San Diego } ss.

The Undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says: That she is a resident of the County of San Diego.

THAT she is and at all times herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of twenty-one years, and that she is not a party to, nor interested in the above entitled matter; that she is Chief Clerk for the publisher of the THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily ( )

in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, and which newspaper is published for the dissemination of local news and intelligence of a general character, and which newspaper at all the times herein mentioned had and still has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and which newspaper has been established, printed and published at regular intervals in the said City of San Diego, County of San Diego, for a period exceeding one year next preceding the date of publication of the notice hereinafter referred to, and which newspaper is not devoted to nor published for the interests, entertainment or instruction of a particular class, profession, trade, calling, race, or denomination, or any number of same; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following date, to-wit:

SEPTEMBER 26, 1993-UNION-TRIBUNE

[signature]

Chief Clerk for the Publisher.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 30th day of SEPTEMBER 1993

Audrey E. Carter

Notary Public in and for the said County and State.

GEO MARINE INC
ATTN: BARBARA MEAD
201 NAPOLEON ST
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

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9/26 (031696)

OFFICIAL SEAL
AUDREY E. CARTER
NOTARY PUBLIC CALIFORNIA
SAN DIEGO COUNTY
My Comm. Expires Jan. 21, 1994

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
) ss.
COUNTY OF LEA)

Joyce Clemens being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says that he is Adv. Director of THE LOVINGTON DAILY LEADER, a daily newspaper of general paid circulation published in the English language at Lovington, Lea County, New Mexico; that said newspaper has been so published in such county continuously and uninterruptedly for a period in excess of Twenty-six (26) consecutive weeks next prior to the first publication of the notice hereto attached as hereinafter shown; and that said newspaper is in all things duly qualified to publish legal notices within the meaning of Chapter 167 of the 1937 Session Laws of the State of New Mexico.

That the notice which is hereto attached, entitled Legal Notice Public Scoping Meeting To Be Held ~~and numbered~~ .... ~~in the~~ .... ~~County, New Mexico~~, was published in a regular and entire issue of THE LOVINGTON DAILY LEADER and not in any supplement thereof, ~~once each week on the same day of the week~~, for one (1) day ~~consecutive weeks~~, beginning with the issue of September 28, 1993 and ending with the issue of September 28, 1993

And that the cost of publishing said notice is the sum of $ 29.04 which sum has been (Paid) ~~(Assessed)~~ as Court Costs

Joyce Clemens

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of September, 1993

[signature]

Notary Public, Lea County, New Mexico

My Commission Expires Sept. 28, 1994

LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLIC SCOPING
MEETINGS TO BE HELD

The public is invited to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF-6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

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Yuma Convention Center,
1440 W. Desert Hills Dr.,
Yuma, Ariz.

Oct. 21
Southwest High School,
1685 Hollister St.,
San Diego, Calif.

Published in the Lovington Daily Leader September 28, 1993.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

Legal Notice

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

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(No.6350-1t,9-27)

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LUNA

I, Sammy Lopez, do solemnly swear that I am the publisher or associate publisher of the Deming Headlight, newspaper published at Deming, Luna County, New Mexico, and that the article, a copy of which is hereto attached, was published in said Headlight for **1** time(s) consecutively.

First publication being on the **27th day of September, 1993**

DEMING HEADLIGHT

By Patty Ciccotelli
Gen. Mgr.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the **28th day of September, 1993**

Maxine S. Hensley

My Commission expires: June 13, 1996.

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CAMERON

ADRIANA ANGUIANO, being duly sworn on her oath states that she is the bookkeeper of "THE VALLEY MORNING STAR" and that the attached PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD appeared in the following issues 08/29/93.

Adriana Anguiano

Subscribed and sworn before this 31 day of AUGUST A. D. 19 93.

Robert F. Adams

NOTARY PUBLIC, Cameron County

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS

ROBERT F. ADAMS
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires April 2, 1997

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

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SEPT. 2	Laredo Junior College (Criminal Justice Bldg) West End Washington St. Laredo, Texas
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OCT. 21	Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Jim Wall, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Publisher of the Las Cruces Sun-News, a newspaper published daily except Saturday in the County of Dona Ana, State of New Mexico; that the notice

Public Scoping Meeting

as per clipping attached, was published once a week in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof, for one consecutive weeks (day): that the first publication was in the issue dated September 5 1993 and the last publication was in the issue dated September 5 1993

Deponent further states that this newspaper is duly qualified to publish legal notices or advertisements within the meaning of Sec. 3. Chapter 167, Laws of 1937. And payment of fees for said publication has been made.

(Signed) [signature]

Publisher
Official Position

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF DONA ANA ss.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of September 1993

Notary Public in and for
Dona Ana County, N.M.

OFFICIAL SEAL
Signature [signature]
[illegible] L. MARTINEZ
NOTARY PUBLIC — NEW MEXICO
NOTARY BOND FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 10/2/94

PUBLIC SCOPING
MEETINGS TO BE HELD

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Pub. No. 93-1404
Publish: September 5, 1993

on this day ... [illegible] ... that he is the CL... [illegible] ADVERTISING MANAGER ... TIMES/HERALD-POST ... daily newspaper published in the City ... County of El Paso, State of Texas, which is a newspaper of general circulation and which has been continuously and regularly published for the period of not less than one year in the said County of El Paso, and that ... was ... upon the dates herein mentioned:

That the LEGAL copy was published in the EL PASO TIMES/ HERALD/POST for the dates of such publication ... [illegible], 1 DAY(S) to wit 9/02/93

BELIA DUENES
NOTARY PUBLIC
State of Texas
Comm. Exp. 03-19-96

Signed [signature]

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this the 2nd day of Sept. 1993

Belia Duenes

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Both: 9/2, 1993 (s#275234)

Public Notices

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD

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(35-1c)

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF PECOS

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority in and for said County and State, on this day personally Lynn Wright, known to me, who after being duly sworn, upon oath deposes and says: That she is the Publisher of The Fort Stockton Pioneer, which is a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Pecos at Fort Stockton, Texas continuously for more than one year. That a copy of the attached notice was published in said newspaper on the following date(s), to wit:

September 2, 1993

_____, 19___

Lynn Wright

THE FORT STOCKTON PIONEER

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, this 10th of Sept., 1993.

Mary J. Ezell

MARY J. EZELL
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires 10-11-96

PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

State of Texas, } GEO-MARINE, INC.
County of Nueces } ss: AD# 80718
PO#

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public, this day personally came Beverly Bennett, who being first duly sworn, according to law, says that she is Business Office Secretary of the Corpus Christi Caller-Times, a daily newspaper published at Corpus Christi in said County and State, generally circulated in Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Cameron, Duval, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, and Webb Counties, and that the publication of PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS TO BE HELD THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO COMMENT ON THE PROGRAMMETIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT BEING which the annexed is a true copy, was published in the Corpus Christi Caller-Times on the 29th day(s) of August, 1993.

One Time(s)

Beverly Bennett
Business Office Secretary

$ 142.40

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of September, 1993.

Connie Haralson
Notary Public, Nueces County, Texas

CONNIE HARALSON
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF TEXAS
EXPIRES
5 - 14 - 97

MEETINGS TO BE HELD

[illegible] Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, concerning the proposed activities conducted by JTF 6 (Joint Task Force Six) along the United States/Mexico border.

In support of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and other law enforcement agencies, activities will include the coordination of military construction operations and training along the southwest land border as requested by Operation Alliance and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

The EIS will provide a genereal assessment of the expected impacts from various types of INS/JTF-6 activities, including possible cumulative impacts. The Notice of Intent (NOI) for the preparation of the EIS was published in the Federal Register on July 15, 1993 and the comment period has been extended to Nov. 5, 1993.

Nine public meetings will take place along the border with the purpose of collecting issues and concerns that will be addressed in the EIS. For more information, call Eric Verwers, JTF-6 project manager for the Corps, at 817-334-3246 or write to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, Attn: Eric Verwers, CESWP-PL-RE, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300. Locations are listed with each meeting beginning at 7 p.m.

Aug. 31: Bayfront Plaza Convention Center, 1901 N. Shoreline, Corpus Christi, Texas

Sept. 1: Hilton Inn, 2721 S. 10th, McAllen, Texas

Sept. 2: Laredo Junior College (Criminal Justice Building), West End Washington St., Laredo, Texas

Sept. 14: Alpine Civic Center, 309 W. Sul Ross Ave., Alpine, Texas

Sept. 16: El Paso Convention Center (Juarez Room), 1 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, Texas

Oct. 12: Deming Civic Center, 110 S. Diamond, Deming, N.M.

Oct. 14: Tucson Convention Center (Greenlee Room), 260 S. Church, Tucson, Ariz.

Oct. 19: Yuma Convention Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Dr., Yuma, Ariz.

Oct. 21: Southwest High School, 1685 Hollister St., San Diego, Calif.

AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST

AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST

Joint Task Force Six
ATTN: Staff Engineer
Building 11603
Biggs Airfield
Fort Bliss, Texas 79916

Vikki Kingslien
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Director, Office of Facility Planning
425 I Street, NW, Room 3030
Washington, DC 20536

US Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6
(6E-FF) ATTN: Yvonne Vallette
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202

William V Beaumet
Assistant Chief
U.S. Border Patrol
Headquarters
425 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20536

David Reeves
USDA-APHIS
6505 Bellcrest Road
Room 639
Hyattsville, MD 20782 (vol 2)

Nick Mpras
Room 1408
Coast Guard
2100 2ND Street, SW
Washington, DC 20593-0001

Sandra Newcomer
Federal Railroad
RRP-31
400 7TH Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Richard Torbik
Federal Highway Administration
HEP-10
400 7TH Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Carlsbad Field Office
Attn: Marge Nelson
2730 Loker Avenue West
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Chuck Davies
US Customs
Office of Inspection and Control
1301 Constitution Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20229

Field Supervisor Dave Hankla
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
17629 El Camino Real, Suite 211
Houston, TX 77058

US Fish and Wildlife Service
%Corpus Christi State University
Campus Box 338
6300 Ocean Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78412

Field Supervisor Sam Hamilton
US Fish And Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
611 East 6TH Street, Suite 407
Austin, TX 78701

Dr. Conrad Keys
IBWC, United States Section
The Commons, Building C, Suite 310
4171 North Mesa
El Paso, TX 79902-1422

Paul Storing
Office of Mexico
Room 4258
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Tim Arnade
Office of Planning (PL)
GSA - Room 6331
18TH and F Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20405

California Water Resources
Control Board
901 P Street
Sacremento, CA 95814

California Air Resources Board
1219 K Street
Sacremento, CA 95814

California Department of
Fish and Game
(Natural Heritage Div. and Others)
1415 Ninth Street
Sacremento, CA 95814

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Southern California Field Sta
Federal Building
2400 Avila Road
Laguna Niguel, CA 92656

Arizona Dept. of
Environmental Quality
3033 North Central
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Institute for International Economies
11 DuPont Circle, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Arizona Game and Fish Dept.
2221 West Greenway
Phoenix, AZ 85023

Arizona Dept. of Agriculture
1688 West Adams
Phoenix, AZ 85007

US Fish and Wildlife Service
3616 West Thomas Road, Suite 6
Phoenix, AZ 85019

New Mexico Environmental Dept.
1190 St. Francis Drive
P.O. Box 26110
Sante Fe, NM 87502

New Mexico Dept. of Game and Fish
Villagra Building
408 Galleto
Sante Fe, NM 87503

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Fish and Wildlife Enhancement
Endangered Species (Mr. Steve Helfert)
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, NM 87103-1306

US Fish and Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Serives Office
3530 Pan American Highway, NE
Suite D
Albuquerque, NM 87101

Ms. Teresa Hoffman
State Historic Preservation Officer
Arizona State Parks
800 West Washington #415
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Gary Stumpf Archeologist
US Bureau of Land Management
Arizona State Office
3707 North 7TH Street
Phoenix, AZ 85014

Dr. Jim Cobb
HQ Forscom
ATTN: FCEN-CEE
Fort McPherson, GA 30330-6000

Thomas Merlan
State Historic Preservation Officer
Villa Rivera, Room 101
228 Palace Avenue
Sante Fe, New Mexico 87503

Steade R. Craigo
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacremento, CA 94296-0001

Curtiss Tunnell
State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Histrorical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744

US Fish and Wildlife Service
2140 Eastman Avenue, Suite 100
Ventura, CA 93003

BLM
ATTN: Jon Joseph
1800 Marquess Street
Las Cruces, NM 88005

BLM
ATTN: Tim Murphey
1800 Marquess Street
Las Cruces, NM 88005

Dale W. Cozart
Chief Patrol Agent
Marfa Sector
P.O. Box I
Marfa, TX 79843

Ronald J Dowdy
Chief Patrol Agent
Tucson Sector
1970 West Ajo Way
Tucson, AZ 85713

Wayne L. Preston
Chief Patrol Agent
Yuma Sector
P.O. Box 2708
Yuma, AZ 85366-2708

Gustavo De La Vina
Chief Patrol Agent
San Diego Sector
P.O. box 439002
San Diego, CA 92143-9022

Paul M. Berg
Chief Patrol Agent
Del Rio Sector
P.O. Box 2020
Del Rio, TX 78841-2020

Johnny N. Williams
Chief Patrol Agent
El Centro Sector
1111 North Imperial Avenue
El Centro, CA 92243

Jerry L. Hicks
Acting Chief Patrol Agent
McAllen Sector
P.O. Box 1179
McAllen, TX 78502-1179

Silvestre Reyes
Chief Patrol Agent
El Paso Sector
P.O. Box 9578
El Paso, TX 79986

Jose E Garza
Chief Patrol Agent
Laredo Sector
207 West Del Mar Blvd
Laredo, TX 78041

State Administrator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (ES)
300 East 8th Street, Room G-167
Federal Building
Austin, TX 78701

Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 368
Anadarko, OK 73005

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87504-0728

State Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (ES)
3530 Pan American Freeway, Suite D
Albuquerque, NM 87107

State Director
Bureau of Land Management
1474 Rodeo Road
P.O. Box 27115
Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115

State Director
Bureau of Land Management
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2550
Sacramento, CA 95825

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87504-0728

Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 26567
Albuquerque, NM 87125-6567

State Director
Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 16563
Phoenix, AZ 85011

Regional Director
National Park Service
600 Harrison Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94107-1372

Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
One North 1st Street
P.O. Box 10
Phoenix, AZ 85001

Regional Director
National Park Service
600 Harrison Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94107-1372

PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE DOCUMENTS

LIBRARY DISTRIBUTION LIST

Alamogordo Public Library
920 Oregon Avenue
Alamogordo, NM 88310

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101 Halaqueno Street
Carlsbad, NM 88220

Deming Public Library
301 Tin Avenue
Deming, NM 88030

Hobbs Public Library
509 North Shipp
Hobbs, NM 88240

Thomas Branigan Memorial Library
Las Cruces Public Library
200 East Picacho Avenue
Las Cruces, NM 88001-3499

The Public Library
515 West College Avenue
Silver City, NM 88061

New Mexico State University
at Alamogordo Library
Learning Resource Center
P. O. Box 477
Alamogordo, NM 88310

New Mexico State University
at Carlsbad
Library & Media Center
1500 University Drive
Carlsbad, NM 88220

College of the Southwest
Scarborough Memorial Library
6610 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, NM 88240

New Mexico Junior College
Pannell Library &
Instructional Resources Ctr.
5317 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, NM 88240

Lovington Public Library
115 Main Street
Lovington, NM 88260

Western New Mexico University
Miller Library
Silver City, NM 88062-0680

Hidalgo Library
208 East Third Street
Lordsburg, NM 88045

Truth or Consequences Public Library
325 Library Lane
Truth or Consequences, NM 87901

Artesia Public Library
306 West Richardson Avenue
Artesia, NM 88210

Eunice Public Library
Tenth Street & Avenue N.
P. O. Box 1629
Eunice, NM 88231

Woolworth Community Library
Utah & Third Streets
P. O. Box 1249
Jal, NM 88252

Casa Grande Public Library
405 East Sixth
Casa Grande, AZ 85222

Mohave Community College Library
1971 Jagerson Avenue
Kingman, AZ 86401

Mohave County Library
3269 North Burbank
P. O. Box 7000
Kingman, AZ 86402-7000

Mesa Public Library
64 East First Street
Mesa, AZ 85201-6768

Mesa Community College Library
1833 West Southern Avenue
Mesa, AZ 85202

Nogales City-Santa Cruz
County Library
Nogales Place
518 Grand Avenue
Nogales, AZ 85621

Salt River Tribal Library
10000 East McDowell Road
P. O. Box 216
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

Scottsdale Community
College Library
9000 East Chaparral Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85256-2699

Scottsdale Public Library
3839 Civic Center Boulevard
Scottsdale, AZ 85251-4434

Sierra Vista Public Library
2950 Tacoma
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635-1399

Cochise Colleg
Andrea Cracchiolo Library
901 North Colombo
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Yuma County Library District
350 Third Avenue
Yuma, AZ 85364

Arizona Western College Library
P. O. Box 929
Yuma, AZ 85366-0929

Pima Community College
West Campus
Learning Resource Center
2202 West Anklam Road
Tucson, AZ 85709-0001

Tucson-Pima Library
101 North Stone Avenue
P. O. Box 27470
Tucson, AZ 85726-7470

University of Arizona Library
Tucson, AZ 85721

Arizona College of the Bible
Oltrogge Library
2045 West Northern Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85021

Arizona State Library
Archives & Public Records
State Capitol, Room 200
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

AZ State Library for the Blind
& Physically Handicapped
1030 North 32nd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85008

Gateway Community College
Library Center
108 North 40th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85034

Grand Canyon University
Fleming Library
3300 West Camelback Road
Phoenix, AZ 85017-1079

Maricopa County Library District
17811 North 32nd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85032-1201

Phoenix College Library
1202 West Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85013

Phoenix Public Library
12 East McDowell Road
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Rio Salado Community College
Professional Library
640 North First Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Southern Mountain Community
College Library
7050 South 24th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85040

University of Phoenix
Learning Resource
Services Center
P. O. Box 52076
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2076

El Centro Public Library
State Street
El Centro, CA 92243-2973

Imperial County Free Library
1647 West Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243-2282

Braille Institute Library Services
741 North Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90029-3594

California Graduate
Institute Library
1100 Glendon Avenue
Suite 1119
Los Angeles, CA 90024

California State University
- Los Angeles
JFK Memorial Library
5151 State University Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90032

County of Los Angeles Public Library
P. O. Box 7011
Downey, CA 90241-7011

Los Angeles Library System
630 West Fifth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2097

Los Angeles Southwest
College Library
1600 West Imperial Highway
Los Angeles, CA 90047

Los Angeles Trad
Technical College Library
400 West Washington Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Mount St. Mary's College
Charles Willard Coe
Memorial Library
12001 Chalon Road
Los Angeles, CA 90049-1599

Occidental College
Mary Norton Clapp Library
1600 Campus Road
Los Angeles, CA 90041-3314

Pacific State Univ. Library
1516 South Western Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90006

University of California
Los Angeles Library
405 Hilgard Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1575

University of Southern California
Edward L. Doheny Memorial Library
University Park
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0182

West Coast University
Elconin Center Library
440 Shatto Place
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Yeshiva of Los Angeles Library
Simon Wiesenthal Center Library
9760 West Pico Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90035

Miramar College
Learning Resources Center
10440 Black Mountain Road
San Diego, CA 92126-2999

National University Library
4007 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108-4194

Point Loma Nazarene College
Ryan Library
3900 Lomaland Drive
San Diego, CA 92106-2899

San Diego City College
Learning Resource Center
1313 12th Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101-4712

San Diego County Library
Building 15
5555 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123-1296

San Diego Mesa College Library
7250 Mesa College Drive
San Diego, CA 92111-4998

San Diego Public Library
820 East Street
San Diego, CA 92101-6478

San Diego State University Library
5300 Companile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-0511

United States International Univ.
Walter Library
10455 Pomerado Road
San Diego, CA 92131-1799

University of San Diego
Helen K. & James Copley Library
Alcala Park
San Diego, CA 92110

McAllen Memorial Library
601 North Main Street
McAllen, TX 78501-4688

Texas State Technical College
McAllen Library, TSTI Library
3201 West Pecan
McAllen, TX 78501-6661

Hidalgo County Library System
4305 North Tenth Street, Suite E
McAllen, TX 78504-3095

University of Texas
at Brownsville
Arnulfo Oliveria Memorial Lib.
80 Fort Brown
Brownsville, TX 78520

Harlingen Public Library
Lon C. Hill Memorial Building
504 East Tyler Avenue
Harlngen, TX 78550

Texas State Technical College
Harlingen Library
P. O. Box 2628
Harlingen, TX 78551-2628

Mercedes Memorial Library
434 South Ohio
Mercedes, TX 78570

Corpus Christi Public Library
805 Comanche
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Corpus Christi University Library
6300 Ocean Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78412

Del Mar College
William F. White, Jr. Library
101 Baldwin
Corpus Christi, TX 78404

Laredo Public Library
Bruni Plaza
Laredo, TX 78040

Laredo State University
Harold R. Yeary Library
One West End Washington St.
Laredo, TX 78040-9960

Donna Public Library
301 South Main
Donna, TX 78537

Val Verde County Library
300 Spring Street
Del Rio, TX 78840

Eagle Pass Public Library
589 Main
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

Victoria College
University of Houston
-Victoria Library
2602 North Ben Jordon Street
Victoria, TX 77901-5612

Texas A&I University
James C. Jernigan Library
West Santa Gertrudis Avenue
P. O. Box 197
Kingsville, TX 78363

Bell-Whittington Public Library
2400 Memorial Parkway
Portland, TX 78374

Calhoun County Library
301 South Ann
Port Lavaca, TX 77979

Bee County Public Library
210 East Corpus Christi St.
Beeville, TX 78102

Victoria Public Library
302 North Main
Victoria, TX 77901-6592

R. J. Kleberg Public Library
Fourth & Henrietta
Kingsville, TX 78363

Arkansas County Public Library
701 East Mimosa
Rockport, TX 78382

Nueces County Library
710 East Main
Robstown, TX 78380

Bee County College Library
3800 Charco Road
Beeville, TX 78102-9985

Weslaco Public Library
525 South Kansas Street
Weslaco, TX 78596-6215

Texas A&I University
- Citrus Center Library
P. O. Box 1150
Weslaco, TX 78599

Galveston College
David Glenn Hunt Memorial Library
4015 Avenue Q
Galveston, TX 77550

Rosenberg Library
2310 Sealy Avenue
Galveston, TX 77550-2296

Texas A&M University
at Galveston
Jack K. Williams Library
P. O. Box 1675
Galveston, TX 77553-1675

San Benito Public Library
101 West Rose Street
San Benito, TX 78586

Reber Memorial Library
193 North Fourth
Raymondville, TX 78580

Edinburg Public Library
401 East Cano
Edinburg, TX 78539-4596

The University of Texas
- Pan American
Learning Resource Center
1201 West University Drive
Edinburg, TX 78539-3705

El Progreso Memorial Library
129 West Nopal
Uvalde, TX 78801

Southwest Texas Junior College
Will C. Miller Memorial Library
2401 Garner Field Road
Uvalde, TX 78801-6297

Alice Public Library
401 East Third Street
Alice, TX 78332

Dittlinger Memorial Library
373 Magazine Avenue
New Braunfels, TX 78130

Angelo State University
Porter Henderson Library
2601 West Avenue North
San Angelo, TX 76909-0001

Tom Green County Library System
113 West Beauregard
San Angelo, TX 76903-5834

Reeves County Library
505 South Park Street
Pecos, TX 79722

El Paso Junior College
Learning Resource Center
P. O. Box 20500
El Paso, TX 79998-0500

El Paso Public Library
501 North Oregon Street
El Paso, TX 79901

University of Texas
-El Paso Library
El Paso, TX 79968-0582

Harris County Public Library
8080 El Rio Street
Houston, TX 77054-4195

Houston Area Library System
500 McKiney Avenue
Houston, TX 77002

Houston Baptist University
Moody Memorial Library
7502 Fondren Road
Houston, TX 77074-3298

North Harris Montgomery
Community College District
Learning Resouce Center
250 N. Sam Houston Pkwy East
Houston, TX 77060-2000

Rice University
Fondren Library
Houston, TX 77251-1892

San Jacinto College
North Library
5800 Uvalde Road
Houston, TX 77049-4589

Texas Southern
University Library
Robert James Terry Library
3100 Cleburne Avenue
Houston, TX 77004

University of Houston
M. D. Anderson Library
Houston, TX 77204-2091

University of Houston
- Downtown
One Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

University of St. Thomas
Robert Pace &
Ada Mary Doherty Library
3800 Montrose
Houston, TX 77006

Our Lady of the Lake University
411 Southwest 24th Street
San Antonio, TX 78207-4666

Palo Alto College
Learning Resource Center
1400 West Villaret
San Antonio, TX 78224-2499

St. Mary's University
Academic Library
One Camino Santa Maria
San Antonio, TX 78284

St. Phillip's College
Learning Resource Center
1801 Martin Luther King Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78203-2097

San Antonio Area Library System
203 South St. Mary's St.
San Antonio, TX 78205-2786

San Antonio College Library
1001 Howard Street
San Antonio, TX 78212

Trinity University Library
715 Stadium Drive
San Antonio, TX 78212

University of Texas
at San Antonio
6900 North Loop 1604 West
San Antonio, TX 78249-0671

Dallas Baptist University
Vance Memorial Library
7777 West Kiest Boulevard
Dallas, TX 75211-9800

Dallas County
Public Library System
634 Records Building, 6th Fl.
Dallas, TX 75202-3504

Dallas Public Library
1515 Young Street
Dallas, TX 75202-9987

El Centro Collego
Learning Resource Center
Main at Lamor Street
Dallas, TX 75202-3604

Highland Park Library
4700 Drexel Drive
Dallas, TX 75205-3198

Mountain View College
Learning Resource Center
4849 West Illinois
Dallas, TX 75211-6599

Paul Quinn College
3837 Simpson Stuart Road
Dallas, TX 75241

Richland College
Learning Resource Center
12800 Abrams Road
Dallas, TX 75243-2199

Southern Methodist College
Central University Library
Dallas, TX 75275-0135

Sul Ross State University
Bryan Wildenthal Library
Alpine, TX 79832

Alpine Public Library
203 North Seventh Street
Alpine, TX 79830

APPENDIX C
DIRECTIVE 6501

July 30, 1979
NUMBER 6050.1

Department of Defense Directive

ASD(MRA&L)

SUBJECT: Environmental Effects in the United States of DoD Actions

References:
(a) DoD Directive 6050.1, "Environmental Considerations in DoD Actions," March 19, 1974 (hereby canceled)
(b) CEQ, Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, 43 Fed. Reg. 55978 (1978) (40 CFR §§1500-1508)
(c) National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Pub. L. No. 91-190 (1970), 42 U.S.C.§§ 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347 (1976)
(d) Executive Order 11514, 35 Fed. Reg. 4247 (1970), amended by Executive Order 11991, 42 Fed. Reg. 26967 (1977)
(e) Executive Order 12065, "National Security Information," June 28, 1978, 43 Fed. Reg. 28949 (1978)
(f) DoD 5200.1-R, "DoD Information Security Program," December 1978, authorized by DoD Directive 5200.1, November 29, 1978

A. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive reissues reference (a), implements the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (reference (b)), and provides policy and procedures to enable DoD officials to be informed of and take into account environmental considerations when considering the authorization or approval of major DoD actions in the United States. The CEQ regulations implement section 102(2) of the National Environmental Policy Act(NEPA) (reference (c)) and Executive Order 11514, as amended (reference (d)). This Directive also cancels Report Control Symbol DD-H&E(Q)1326.

B. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

1. This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Unified and Specified Commands, and the Defense Agencies (hereafter referred to as "DoD Components").

2. This Directive is limited to DoD actions with environmental effects in the United States.

3. The civil works activities under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Engineers are excluded from this Directive.

C. DEFINITIONS

1. United States means all states, the District of Columbia, territories and possessions of the United States, and all waters and airspace subject to the territorial jurisdiction of the United States. The territories and possessions of the United States include the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Wake Island, Midway Islands, Guam, Palmyra Island, Johnston Atoll, Navassa Island, and Kingman Reef. For the purpose of this Directive, United States also includes the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas.

2. Other terms used in this Directive are defined in Part 1508 of the CEQ regulations (enclosure 2).

D. POLICY

1. The Department of Defense must act with care to ensure to the maximum extent possible that, in carrying out its mission of providing for the national defense, it does so in a manner consistent with national environmental policies. Care must be taken to ensure that, consistent with other considerations of national policy and with national security requirements, practical means and measures are used to protect, restore, and enhance the quality of the environment, to avoid or minimize adverse environmental consequences, and to attain the objectives of:

a. Achieving the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health and safety, or other consequences that are undesirable and unintended;

b. Preserving important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintaining, where possible, an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice;

c. Achieving a balance between resource use and development within the sustained carrying capacity of the ecosystem involved; and

d. Enhancing the quality of renewable resources and working toward the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

2. The Department of Defense shall:

a. Assess environmental consequences of proposed DoD actions that could affect the quality of the environment in the United States in accordance with enclosures 1 and 2;

b. Use a systematic, interdisciplinary approach that will ensure the integrated use of the natural and social sciences and environmental considerations in planning and decisionmaking where there may be an impact on man's environment.

c. Ensure that presently unmeasured environmental amenities are considered in the decisionmaking process;

d. Consider reasonable alternatives to recommended actions in any proposal that would involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources;

e. Make available to states, counties, municipalities, institutions, and individuals advice and information useful in restoring, maintaining, and enhancing the quality of the environment; and

f. Utilize ecological information in planning and developing resource-oriented projects.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) shall:

a. Serve as the responsible official for all DoD environmental matters;

b. Modify or supplement enclosure 1 of this Directive, when required, in a manner consistent with the policies set forth in this Directive;

c. Provide assistance in the preparation of environmental assessments and statements, and assign, in consultation with appropriate Assistant Secretaries of Defense and heads of DoD Components, lead agency responsibility to prepare environmental documentation when more than one DoD Component is involved and agreement among the Components cannot be reached;

d. Direct the preparation of environmental documents for specific proposed actions, when required;

e. Provide, when appropriate, consolidated Department of Defense comments requested by other Federal agencies on draft and final environmental impact statements;

f. Review proposed issuances of the Office of the Secretary of Defense that may have environmental implications; and

g. Maintain liaison with the Council on Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of Management and Budget, other Federal agencies, and state and local groups with respect to environmental analyses for proposed DoD actions affecting the quality of the environment in the United States.

2. The General Counsel, DoD, shall provide advice and assistance concerning the requirements of this Directive.

3. The Secretaries of the Military Departments, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Directors of Defense Agencies, and Commanders of the Unified and Specified Commands, for operations under their jurisdiction, shall:

a. Assess environmental consequences of proposed programs and actions within their respective DoD Component;

b. Prepare and process environmental documents as required by this Directive;

c. Integrate environmental considerations into their decision-making processes;

d. Ensure that regulations and other major policy issuances are reviewed for consistency with the requirements of this Directive;

e. Provide comments on environmental impact statements for actions within their area of expertness or concern; and

f. Designate a single point of contact for matters pertaining to this Directive.

F. INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

The environmental documents to be prepared under section E. and enclosures 1 and 2 are assigned Report Control Symbol DD-M(AR)1327 (formerly DD-H&E(AR)1327).

G. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective July 30, 1979. This Directive shall apply to the fullest extent practicable to on-going activities and environmental documents begun before July 30, 1979. This Directive does not apply to an environmental impact statement or supplement if the draft was filed before July 30, 1979. This Directive shall not be construed as requiring completed environmental documents to be redone. Forward two copies of implementing documents to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) within 120 days.

C. W. DUNCAN, JR.
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosures - 2
1. DoD Implementing Procedures
2. CEQ Regulations, November 29, 1978

DoD IMPLEMENTING PROCEDURES

A. GENERAL

1. Section 1507.3, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (reference (b) and enclosure 2), directs that Federal agencies shall as necessary adopt procedures to supplement the CEQ regulations. This enclosure provides those DoD implementing procedures.

2. This enclosure must be read together with the CEQ regulations and the Act when applying the NEPA process.

3. This enclosure is organized sequentially from early planning to final implementation of an action. Throughout this enclosure, references to the CEQ regulations identify the applicable section of those regulations; e.g., CEQ 1501.2.

B. PLANNING CONSIDERATION

1. Early Planning. DoD Components shall integrate the NEPA process during the initial planning stages of proposed DoD actions to ensure that planning and decisions reflect environmental values, to avoid delays later in the process, and to preclude potential conflicts.

2. Lead Agency

a. To determine the lead agency for preparing environmental documentation for proposed actions in which more than one DoD Component is involved, and in which no other Federal agency is involved, DoD Components shall apply the criteria in CEQ 1501.5. The ASD(MRA&L) shall resolve disagreements.

b. When another Federal agency is involved and there is disagreement in lead agency determination, the ASD(MRA&L) shall attempt to resolve the differences. If unsuccessful, the ASD(MRA&L) shall file a request with CEQ for lead agency determination.

3. Advising Applicants. CEQ 1501.2(d) provides for advising private applicants or other non-Federal entities when DoD involvement is reasonably foreseeable. Actions involving applications by private applicants or other non-Federal entities are limited within the Department of Defense and pertain primarily to permits, leases, and related actions concerning the use of DoD lands and property.

a. The following are types of actions initiated by private persons, state or local agencies, and other non-Federal entities for which DoD involvement may be reasonably foreseeable:

(1) Requests for easements and rights-of-way on DoD lands,

(2) Grazing and agricultural leases, and

(3) Requests for permits, licenses, or other agreements for use of DoD real property by non-DoD entities.

b. When DoD involvement is reasonably foreseeable, DoD Components shall consult early with appropriate state and local agencies and Indian tribes and with interested private persons and organizations.

c. Public notices or other means used to inform or solicit applicants for permits, leases, or related actions shall describe the studies or information foreseeably required for later DoD Component action.

d. When considering leasing or otherwise providing real property to non-DoD entities, DoD Components shall initiate the NEPA process, when required, as early as possible.

4. Determination of Requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement. DoD Components shall determine as early as possible whether to prepare an environmental impact statement. Early determination ensures that necessary environmental documentation is prepared and integrated with the decisionmaking process. To determine whether to prepare an environmental impact statement, DoD Components shall determine whether the proposal is one that:

a. Normally requires an environmental impact statement,

b. Normally does not require either an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment (categorical exclusion), or

c. Normally requires an environmental assessment but not necessarily an environmental impact statement.

5. Actions That Normally Require an Environmental Impact Statement

a. DoD Components shall determine if a proposal is one that normally requires an environmental impact statement. In some cases, it is readily apparent that a proposed action would have a significant impact on the environment. In that event, an environmental assessment is not required, and the DoD Component may begin the environmental impact statement phase. To determine those actions that normally do require the preparation of an environmental impact statement, the following considerations, which DoD Components may supplement, are provided:

(1) Potential for significant degradation of environmental quality,

(2) Potential for threat or hazard to the public,

(3) Potential for significant impact on protected natural or historic resources.

b. DoD Component procedures will identify those typical classes of actions that normally require the preparation of environmental impact statements.

c. In any case involving a proposed action of the sort that normally does require an environmental impact statement, a DoD Component may still prepare an environmental assessment to determine if an environmental impact statement is required based on the particular facts. If a determination is made based on the assessment that no environmental impact statement is required on the particular facts, a finding of no significant impact will be prepared and made available to the public in accordance with paragraph C.4. of this enclosure.

6. Categorical Exclusion. The CEQ regulations provide for the establishment of categorical exclusions (CEQ 1507.3(b)) for those actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and for which, therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required. Categorical exclusions will help DoD Components avoid unnecessary effort and concentrate resources on significant environmental issues.

a. Criteria. Considerations to assist in identifying categories of actions that normally do not require either an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment include:

(1) Minimal or no significant effect on environmental quality,

(2) No significant change to existing environmental conditions,

(3) No significant cumulative environmental impact,

(4) Social and economic effects only,

(5) Similarity to actions previously assessed and found to have no significant environmental impact.

b. List of Categorical Exclusions. Categories of actions that the Department of Defense has determined to have no significant effect on the quality of the human environment and for which environmental impact statements and environmental assessments are not required are identified in Annex A to this enclosure.

c. Changes to the List of Categorical Exclusions

(1) The DoD list of categorical exclusions is reviewed and refined as additional categories are identified. DoD Components may recommend additions or changes to this list. Recommendations shall be submitted to the ASD(MRA&L).

(2) DoD Components are encouraged to include in their regulations to implement this Directive additional categorical exclusions that they identify. Categorical exclusions that one DoD Component identifies that may be applicable to other DoD Components should be brought to the attention of the ASD(MRA&L).

d. Extraordinary Circumstances. If extraordinary circumstances exist indicating that a normally excluded action may have a significant environmental effect, an environmental assessment will be prepared for such otherwise categorically excluded action. Factors to consider in determining whether extraordinary circumstances exist include:

(1) Greater scope or size than normally experienced for a particular category of action,

(2) Potential for degradation, even though slight, of already existing poor environmental conditions,

(3) Presence of endangered species, archeological remains, or other cultural, historic, or protected resources, and

(4) Use of hazardous or toxic substances.

7. Actions That Normally Require an Environmental Assessment. When a proposal is not one that normally requires an environmental impact statement and does not qualify for categorical exclusion, the DoD Component shall prepare an environmental assessment.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PHASE

1. When to Prepare. DoD Components shall begin preparation of an environmental assessment as early as possible after the determination that an assessment is to be prepared.

2. Content and Format. The environmental assessment is a concise public document to determine whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or whether to prepare a finding of no significant impact, to aid in compliance with NEPA when no environmental impact statement is necessary, and to facilitate preparation of a statement when one is

necessary. Preparation of an environmental assessment generally does not require extensive research or lengthy documentation. The environmental assessment shall contain brief discussions of the following:

a. Need for the proposed action,

b. Alternatives considered when the proposed action involves unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources,

c. Environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives,

d. Listing of agencies and persons consulted, and

e. Conclusion of whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact.

3. Public Participation. DoD Components shall involve environmental agencies, applicants, and the public, to the extent practicable, in preparing environmental assessments. In determining "to the extent practicable," factors that may be considered include:

a. Magnitude of the proposal,

b. Likelihood of public interest,

c. Need to act quickly, and

d. National security classification issues.

4. Finding of No Significant Impact. If a DoD Component determines on the basis of the environmental assessment not to prepare an environmental impact statement, the DoD Component shall prepare a finding of no significant impact in accordance with CEQ 1501.4(e) and make the finding of no significant impact available to the affected public as specified in CEQ 1501.4(e) and CEQ 1506.6. A finding of no significant impact is not required when the decision not to prepare an environmental impact statement is based on a categorical exclusion.

D. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PHASE

1. Notice of Intent. When a DoD Component decides to prepare an environmental impact statement, it shall publish a notice of intent in the Federal Register. The notice of intent shall be published before initiation of the scoping process.

2. Scoping. After determination that an environmental impact statement should be prepared and publication of the notice of intent, the DoD Component shall initiate the scoping process in accordance with CEQ 1501.7.

3. Preparation. Detailed procedures for preparation of the environmental impact statement are provided in CEQ 1502. The recommended format provided in CEQ 1502.10 is the standard format for DoD environmental impact statements. Requests for exception will be submitted to the ASD(MRA&L) for approval on a case-by-case basis.

4. Supplemental Environemental Impact Statements. DoD Components may at any time supplement a draft or final environmental impact statement. DoD Components shall prepare a supplement to either the draft or final environmental impact statement in accordance with CEQ 1502.9(c). DoD Components normally will prepare, circulate, and file a supplement to a statement in the same manner (exclusive of scoping) as a draft or final statement. The supplement shall be included as part of the formal administrative record to be considered in the decisionmaking process. Exceptions to these procedures shall be requested from the ASD(MRA&L), who may undertake the discussions with the CEQ.

5. Tiering. DoD Components should emphasize the use of tiering (CEQ 1502.20) of environmental impact statements to eliminate repetitive discussions of the same issues and to focus the issues.

6. Combining Documents. Any environmental document prepared in the NEPA process may be combined with any other agency document to reduce duplication (CEQ 1506.4). If an environmental impact statement for a particular action already exists, regardless of what Federal agency prepared it, no new statement is required by this Directive (CEQ 1506.3).

7. Incorporation by Reference. DoD Components shall incorporate material into the environmental impact statement by reference when the effect will be to cut down on bulk without impeding agency and public review of the action (CEQ 1502.21).

8. Information on the NEPA Process. Information or status reports on environmental impact statements and other elements of the NEPA process shall be provided to interested persons upon request. This does not, however, encompass standing or blanket requests.

a. Each DoD Component shall designate in its regulation implementing this Directive where interested persons can obtain information.

b. For those actions relating to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, information is available by writing the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics), Washington, D.C. 20301.

9. Circulation of Environmental Impact Statements. DoD Components shall circulate draft and final environmental impact statements as prescribed in CEQ 1502.19. In addition, DoD Components shall provide one copy of each draft and each final statement to the ASD(MRA&L).

10. Classified Material. It may be necessary for DoD Components to include classified material in environmental documentation. Classified information in environmental documents shall be safeguarded in accordance with Executive Order 12065 (reference e), implemented by DoD 5200.1-R (reference f). The requirements for circulation (CEQ 1502.19) and public involvement (CEQ 1506.6) do not apply to classified environmental documents except where segregation of material and circulation and involvement can be accomplished consistently with the provisions of DoD 5200.1-R. When feasible, environmental documents may be organized in such a manner that classified portions can be included as annexes so that unclassified portions can be made available to the public in the normal manner. This normally will not be possible when the proposal itself is classified.

E. PREIMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

1. Decisionmaking. DoD Components shall ensure that the NEPA process is integrated into the decisionmaking process. Because of the size and diversity of the Department of Defense, it is not feasible to describe in this Directive the decisionmaking process for each of the various DoD programs. Proposals and actions may be initiated at any level. Similarly, review and approval authority may be exercised at various levels depending on the nature of the action, funding, and authority. It is necessary, therefore, that DoD Components provide further guidance, commensurate with their programs and organization, for integration of environmental considerations into the decisionmaking process. That guidance should include procedures to ensure that:

a. Major decison points are designated for principal programs and proposals likely to have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, and steps are taken to ensure that the NEPA process coincides with these decision points.

b. Relevant environmental documents, comments, and responses accompany a proposal through existing DoD Component review processes so that they can be considered by DoD Component decisionmakers.

c. The alternatives considered by the decisionmaker are encompassed by the range of alternatives discussed in relevant environmental documents, and the decisionmaker considers all the alternatives described in the environmental impact statement.

2. Record of Decision. In those cases requiring environmental impact statements, DoD Components, at the time of the decision or, if appropriate, the proposal to Congress, shall prepare a concise public record of agency decision. The record of decision is not intended to be an extensive, detailed document. Rather, it is a concise document that sets forth the decision, identifies the alternatives considered in

reaching the decision, specifies the environmentally preferable alternative or alternatives, indicates other factors that were balanced in the decisionmaking process, and states whether all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm have been adopted, and if not, why not (CEQ 1505.2).

3. Mitigation. Throughout the NEPA process, DoD Components shall, where possible, give consideration to mitigation measures to avoid or minimize environmental harm. Mitigation measures or programs shall be identified, when appropriate, in the environmental documents and made available to decisionmakers. Mitigation and other conditions that have been established in the environmental impact statement or during its review, and that have been committed as part of the decision, shall be implemented.

4. Monitoring. If a DoD Component determines that monitoring is necessary to ensure that mitigation measures, to which a commitment has been made, are carried out, it shall adopt a monitoring program. DoD Components shall, upon request, provide monitoring information to the public and to cooperating and commenting agencies, as specified in CEQ 1505.3. This does not, however, include standing or blanket requests for periodic reporting.

5. Emergencies. In the event of an emergency, DoD Components may be required to take immediate action with significant environmental impact. This includes actions that must be taken to promote the national defense or security and that cannot be delayed, and actions necessary for the protection of life or property. DoD Components shall notify the ASD(MRA&L) of the emergency, who shall undertake the required consultation with the CEQ. In no event shall DoD Components delay an emergency action necessary to the national security, or for preservation of human life, for the purpose of complying with the provisions of this Directive or the CEQ regulations. If an emergency requires that an action be taken without delay, the ASD(MRA&L) shall be notified as promptly as is possible. The requirement for notification where action must be taken without delay is not a requirement for prior notification.

ANNEX A
DOD LIST OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

1. Preparation of regulations, directives, manuals, or other guidance documents that implement, without substantial change, the regulations, directives, manuals, or other guidance documents from higher headquarters or another Federal agency.

2. Preparation of regulations, directives, manuals, and other guidance documents related to actions that qualify for categorical exclusion.

3. Routine installation maintenance and grounds-keeping activities.

4. Minor construction conducted in accordance with an approved installation master plan that does not significantly alter land use, provided that the operation of the completed project would not of itself have a significant environmental impact.

5. Studies that involve no commitment of resources other than manpower and funding.

6. Proposed actions that, based on sound judgment, are of such an environmentally insignificant nature as clearly not to meet the threshhold for requiring an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

7. Other categories as identified by DoD Components in their regulations implementing this Directive.